Alternative Method of Instruction
Grade 4
Day 4

Literacy: MVP
Be sure to answer the discussion questions in complete sentences.

Social Studies: United States Government Crossword

Math: Math Skills: Word Problems

Science: 4th Grade AMI Day 4
Read and answer all questions for the article "The Sun’s Energy is Vital For Life On Earth"

Also Respond to the writing activity
MVP
By Clare Mishica
2015

Clare Mishica has written for Highlights. In this short story, a boy wants to be named the most valuable player of his team for scoring the most baskets during the championship game. As you read, take notes on how the narrator interacts with his teammates during the game.

8:00

[1] The red numbers on the clock showed that there was one quarter left in the game. In just eight minutes, one team would win the seventh-grade championship. The score was tied at 24.

Our sweaty team huddled\(^1\) around Coach Sanchez. "Pass it around and don't get boxed in," he warned. "When you're open, shoot."

We stuck our hands into the middle. "Go, Eagles!"

Back on the floor, Brandon had the ball. I was open, but he passed it to Cole. Cole had a great turn-around jump shot, but I was a good shot, too. In fact, we each had six points so far. But Cole was more popular, and the team fed\(^2\) him the ball.

7:00

[5] The Kings took possession of the ball and tied the score. Then Cole was fouled\(^3\) and sank his two free throws. That added two points to our team's score — and to the score in my head. It shouldn't have mattered, but for once I wanted to outscore Cole. I wanted to show the team that I could be the MVP — most valuable player.

The Kings dribbled down, but Jeff stole the ball and threw a long, hard pass to me. I saw Cole running toward the bucket, but no one was guarding me either. I dribbled in and shot. The ball swished through for two.

Cole slapped my hand. "Good shot, Derek."

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1. Huddle (verb): to crowd together closely
2. to pass the ball to a player in a game
3. to make a play that breaks a rule in a game
Now we were down by one. Our school had a shot at its first championship, but time was running out. All of a sudden, more than anything, I wanted our team to take home the trophy.

**2:00**

"Time out!" called Coach Sanchez, and we ran off the floor.

[25] "We need points, guys," said Coach as we crowded around him.

"Get it to Brandon," I blurted\(^6\) out. "They're leaving him open when they double-team me."

Everyone looked at Brandon. He hardly ever shot.

"Give it a try," said Coach.

**1:00**

I took the ball down the court. Two Kings boxed me in,\(^6\) leaving Brandon wide open. I faked a shot and bounce-passed the ball to him. He caught it and hesitated.\(^7\)


Brandon let it fly — right into the bucket. We won by one huge point as the buzzer sounded. The gym exploded with cheers.

We were all jumping around when I spotted Cole on the bench.

"Hey," I said. "Great game."

"You, too," said Cole, slapping my back. "Great idea to pass it to Brandon. Congratulations on getting MVP."

[35] I'd been waiting a long time to hear those words, but they didn't seem so important now. "Thanks," I said. "It was a team effort."

And I finally understood just what that meant.

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5. **Blurt (verb):** to say something suddenly
6. **to surround someone so that they can't move**
7. **Hesitate (verb):** to pause before saying or doing something
Discussion Questions

Directions: Brainstorm your answers to the following questions in the space provided. Be prepared to share your original ideas in a class discussion.

1. In the story, the narrator realizes that he needed Cole to play well, and Cole needed him to play well in the game, too. How does working together help the narrator's basketball team win? Describe a time when you worked with others and how it helped you accomplish a goal.

2. In the story, the narrator is more interested in becoming the MVP than winning the game. How does he eventually put his team before himself to help them win? Describe a time when you put the needs of the group before your own. How did it make you feel?
United States Crossword: government

Across
1. This person leads a town.
3. A part of the government that makes laws.
5. When people come together to vote.

Down
2. This person leads a state.
4. This person leads a country.
6. Members of a country.

Word Bank

governor  citizens  election  president  congress  mayor
Math Skills: Word Problems

Solve the word problems below. Circle your answers.

1. Jean saw a basic computer for $695.00 and a printer for $95.00. In order to buy the computer, Jean would work each week for four months. He earned $157.00 in May, $210.00 in June, $377.00 in July and $145.00 in August. Has Jean earned enough money to buy the computer and printer? If so, how much will he have left over after the purchase?

2. Susan loved her four dogs. Sneakers was younger than Socks, but older than Butters. Pickles is in between Socks and Sneakers. List the dogs from youngest to oldest.

3. Maria borrowed a video game from a friend about travelling across the world. The object of the game is to keep track of the miles traveled. Maria played the game for three days. On the first day, she travelled 536 miles. On the second day, she travelled 259 miles. On the third day, she travelled 632 miles. What is the total amount of miles Maria travelled in the game?

4. Mrs. Anderson logs the number of minutes Timmy spends on the computer each day. She wants to make sure he isn't spending too much time online. In January, Timmy logged 1,525 minutes. In February, Timmy was assigned several essays. He logged 5,182 minutes doing research online. How many more minutes did Timmy log in February?

5. The Social Studies students have been studying the rise in population in a nearby city over the past ten years. They are working on creating graphs for a mid-term assignment. In the first four years, the population increased by 5,765 people. In the next two years, the population increased by 2,789 people. In the last four years, the population increased by 8,723 people. What is the total number of people the city's population has increased by in the past ten years?
The Sun's Energy is Vital for Life on Earth

The sun’s energy is the primary source of energy for all superficial occurrences and life on Earth. Combining with the Earth and the molecules that are held close by the Earth’s gravitational force called the atmosphere, this energy provides the diversity of forms of life that are found on the Earth.

The Sun is essential for us in many ways. Here is a list of some of the most important ways.

1. The sun provides heat to Earth.
2. The sun provides light for plants to photosynthesize.
3. The sun provides day and night cycles for animals.
4. The sun provides solar energy.
5. The sun provides a constant orbit for the Earth to follow, thus seasons occur.

Sunlight shining down on green plants helps the plants live and to grow. Sunlight helps create the food we eat, and the fuel we burn comes either from the plants, or in the form of oil, coal, and natural gas many years ago.

Without the Sun and its energy, Earth would probably not be fit for life. Life and the Earth as we know it needs water, and Earth is the only planet known to have water. Without the sun, the Earth would be a frozen planet drifting in space. Earth is the only planet in the solar system fit for life.
The Sun’s Energy is Vital for Life on Earth

Multiple Choice Questions

1. The primary source of solar energy comes from the________?
   a) The Sun
   b) The Moon
   c) Mars
   d) Earth

2. Solar energy provides the diversity of life forms that are found on the Earth. Identify if this statement is TRUE or FALSE.
   a) True
   b) False

3. Which of the following is NOT true?
   a) The sun provides heat to the earth
   b) The sun is a source of solar energy
   c) The sun helps in photosynthesis
   d) The sun causes floods and rain

4. What do green plants need to survive?
   a) other plants
   b) sunlight
   c) seeds
   d) flowers

5. If there was no sun, our earth would have been _____ (by now).
   a) Melted
   b) Freeze
   c) Not affected
The Sun's Energy is Vital for Life on Earth

Writing Activity

1. Write down at least 3 benefits of sun?

2. What would have happened to Earth if there were no sun?

3. The passage states that food exists because of sun. Explain the process by which sunlight helps plants in making food?

4. Name all of the planets in the Solar System.