



# Have You Tried Our Choice Boards?

## Dear teachers,

Did you know that in addition to the writing prompts that appear at the end of each article and story, we also provide Choice Boards at Scope Online? They are a must-use resource!

Each Choice Board offers a menu of differentiated tasks to select from after reading a story. From writing imagined dialogues and play scenes to designing book covers and in-character social media posts, each Choice Board offers plenty of opportunities for you and your students to find inspiration. Plus, your students get the chance to choose how they will demonstrate their understanding of a skill or concept.

Find the Choice Boards under "Activities" on the Resources tab for most stories. I hope you'll try them out and tell me how it goes!

Wishing you and your students a wonderful February,

Kristin



Kristin Lewis  
Senior Editorial Director  
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## Let's Connect!

- Meet other *Scope* teachers in the *Scope* Community for Middle School ELA Teachers
- Email us at [scopemag@scholastic.com](mailto:scopemag@scholastic.com)

## Staff Picks

"I'm so excited for your students to read our play based on a story from Maya mythology (p. 13). Juan Carlos Ribas's incredible illustrations really bring this tale to life."

—Albert Amigo, Art Director



"Don't miss the writing task that accompanies the paired texts about eating bugs (p. 22). It's perfect for practicing synthesis."

—Adee Braun,  
Managing Editor



"I wish I could be a fly on the wall when your students get to the twist ending of the fiction 'They Might Be Dangerous' (p. 27)."

—Lauren Salisbury, Education Editor



## EARLY BIRD GETS THE WORM!

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A SUPPLEMENT TO SCOPE

Turn the page to see  
what comes with your issue!

# Your February 2024 Issue at a Glance

To get your online resources, you will need to register at [scope.scholastic.com](https://scope.scholastic.com).  
Your access code: **B6RXGEXB**

Find your lesson plans at Scope Online!

Story	Summary	Skills and Standards**	Multimedia	Skill-Building Activities		More Resources
<b>Grammar</b> , pp. 2-3 "Towers of Ice"	Students practice using <i>number</i> and <i>amount</i> while learning about how human-made ice towers are helping to bring water to a region in the Himalayas.	<b>Featured Skills:</b> grammar, usage, and mechanics <b>CCSS:</b> L.1	<b>Video:</b> Grammar Hack: <i>Number or Amount?</i> <b>Video:</b> Ice Stupas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Number or Amount?:</b> Anchor Chart and Practice Activity</li><li>• <b>In-Magazine Activity:</b> Interactive Version</li></ul>		✓ Lesson plan ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Answer key
<b>Narrative Nonfiction</b> , pp. 4-9 "Heart Saver"	The story of Vivien Thomas, a Black man whose pioneering research led to the development of a life-saving heart surgery for babies in the 1940s.	<b>Featured Skill:</b> key ideas and details <b>CCSS:</b> R.1, R.2, R.3, R.4, R.5, R.7, W.2, SL.1, SL.2	<b>Audio:</b> Article and vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Featured Skill:</b> Key Ideas and Details</li><li>• <b>Close-Reading &amp; Critical-Thinking Questions</b></li><li>• <b>Choice Board</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Vocabulary:</b> Definitions &amp; Practice</li><li>• <b>Quiz*</b></li><li>• <b>Core Skills:</b> Summarizing*, Text Features, Nonfiction Elements</li></ul>	✓ Lesson plan and slide deck ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Lower Lexile ✓ Spanish version ✓ Answer key
<b>Short Read</b> , pp. 10-11 "Can You Spot a Scam?"	This bite-sized article explores how to protect yourself from online scams.	<b>Featured Skill:</b> constructed response <b>CCSS:</b> R.1, R.2, R.3, R.4, R.5, R.6, W.2, SL.1, SL.2	<b>Audio:</b> Article and vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>The Short Write Kit</b></li><li>• <b>Vocabulary:</b> Definitions &amp; Practice</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Quiz*</b></li><li>• <b>Core Skill:</b> Central Ideas &amp; Details*</li></ul>	✓ Lesson plan ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Answer key
<b>Root Power</b> , p. 12 "A Star's Secret"	Students learn about the Greek prefix <i>auto</i> through a graphic-novel-style story.	<b>Featured Skill:</b> vocabulary acquisition <b>CCSS:</b> L.4	<b>Audio:</b> Story	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Root Power:</b> <i>auto</i></li></ul>		✓ Lesson plan ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Answer key
<b>Drama</b> , pp. 13-19 <i>Into the Underworld</i> and "My Life in a Maya Village"	Students will love performing our thrilling play based on a story from Maya mythology. The play is followed by an interview with a student who lives in a Maya village.	<b>Featured Skill:</b> conflict <b>CCSS:</b> R.1, R.2, R.3, R.4, R.5, W.2, SL.1, L.4, L.5, L.6	<b>Audio:</b> Pronunciation guide and vocabulary <b>Slideshow:</b> Background Builder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Featured Skill:</b> Conflict</li><li>• <b>Close-Reading &amp; Critical-Thinking Questions</b></li><li>• <b>Choice Board</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Pronunciation Guide</b></li><li>• <b>Genre Explorations</b></li><li>• <b>Vocabulary:</b> Definitions &amp; Practice</li><li>• <b>Quiz*</b></li></ul>	✓ Lesson plan and slide deck ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Answer key
<b>Debate: Essay Kit</b> , pp. 20-21 "Should We Switch to the Metric System?"	Students read arguments on both sides of the debate and take a stand.	<b>Featured Skill:</b> argument writing <b>CCSS:</b> R.1, R.2, R.3, R.4, R.5, R.6, R.8, W.1, SL.1, SL.4	<b>Audio:</b> Article and vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Essay Kit</b></li><li>• <b>Vocabulary:</b> Definitions &amp; Practice</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Persuasive Appeals:</b> Ethos, Pathos, Logos</li><li>• <b>Anchor Charts:</b> Transitions &amp; Argument Essay Checklist</li></ul>	✓ Lesson plan and slide deck ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Answer key
<b>Paired Texts</b> , pp. 22-26 "Would You Eat This?" and "Gross! Yuck! Ew!"	An article exploring whether bugs might one day become a staple in the American diet is followed by an article about the science behind disgust.	<b>Featured Skill:</b> synthesis <b>CCSS:</b> R.1, R.2, R.3, R.4, R.5, R.6, R.7, R.9, W.2, SL.1, SL.4	<b>Audio:</b> Articles and vocabulary <b>Video:</b> Edible Insects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Featured Skill:</b> Synthesis</li><li>• <b>Close-Reading &amp; Critical-Thinking Questions</b></li><li>• <b>Choice Board</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Vocabulary:</b> Definitions &amp; Practice</li><li>• <b>Quiz*</b></li><li>• <b>Core Skills:</b> Text Structure*, Text Evidence*</li></ul>	✓ Lesson plan and slide deck ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Lower Lexile ✓ Answer key
<b>Fiction</b> , pp. 27-31 "They Might Be Dangerous" and "Desert Eclipse"	This riveting sci-fi story by Kate Messner has a shocking twist. It's followed by an essay by Messner about the event that inspired her story.	<b>Featured Skill:</b> character <b>CCSS:</b> R.1, R.2, R.3, R.4, R.5, R.6, W.3, SL.1	<b>Audio:</b> Story, essay, and vocabulary <b>Slideshow:</b> Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Featured Skill:</b> Character</li><li>• <b>Close-Reading &amp; Critical-Thinking Questions</b></li><li>• <b>Theme Anticipation Guide</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Choice Board</b></li><li>• <b>Vocabulary:</b> Definitions</li><li>• <b>Quiz*</b></li><li>• <b>Core Skill:</b> Inference</li></ul>	✓ Lesson plan and slide deck ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Answer key
<b>Poem</b> , p. 32 "Ode to El Molcajete"	Students read a poem by Gary Soto and then use it as a model to write their own.	<b>Featured Skill:</b> analyzing and writing poetry <b>CCSS:</b> R.1, R.2, R.4, W.4, W.5	<b>Audio:</b> Poem <b>Video:</b> Poetry Read-Aloud	<div>Print, project, or share digitally!</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Poetry Analysis</b></li><li>• <b>Poetry Planner</b></li></ul>		✓ Lesson plan ✓ Text-to-speech ✓ Answer key

\*\* Common Core Anchor Standards. For grade-level-specific Common Core standards as well as Texas State Standards, go to Scope Online.

\* Available on two levels

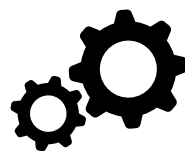
# What to Love This Month at Scope Online

Explore these resources—and more—at [scope.scholastic.com](https://scope.scholastic.com).



## Poetry Video

Don't miss Gary Soto's video  
read-aloud of his delightful poem  
"Ode to El Molcajete."



## Spanish Hub

Explore our collection of Spanish  
nonfiction articles and activities.

Find the hub at  
[scope.scholastic.com/spanish-hub](https://scope.scholastic.com/spanish-hub).



## Special Collection: Black History

Dig into some of our most beloved  
stories celebrating Black history in  
this multigenre collection.



## Connect!

Connect with *Scope* teachers and  
share ideas in our Facebook group:  
[facebook.com/groups/ScopeMag](https://facebook.com/groups/ScopeMag).



## Contest Deadline Alert!

*Scope*'s contests are a wonderful way to get your students excited  
about writing—and winners get awesome prizes!

Entries for contests from this issue must be received by **March 18, 2024**.

For details: [scope.scholastic.com/contests](https://scope.scholastic.com/contests)