TeachersFirst READING TREKS

Around the World Right Now

Teacher Guide

Grade Level & Content Areas

Access Reading Trek Map

Ages: 5–8
Grades: K–2 (read-aloud), 3–5 (independent)
Reading Level: 3rd Grade
Lexile Measure: 690L
Guided Reading Level: M
Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA): 20–24

Content Areas: English/language arts, reading, literature, music, and social studies (including history and geography).

Synopsis of Book

This beautifully illustrated story transports readers to significant landmarks in most of the 24 time zones. As you travel through time to every continent, you experience a small taste of the culture and learn that something extraordinary is happening in every part of the globe. The story concludes by tying the past to the present with directions for making a sundial. This work from mother-daughter writing team Gina Cascone and Bryony Sheppard and illustrator Olivia Beckman is sure to inspire conversations about all times of the day and night.

Standards

Common Core State Standards for K–5

Reading: Literature

- Key Ideas and Details
- Craft and Structure

Reading: Informational Text

- Key Ideas and Details
- Craft and Structure

Writing

- Text Types and Purposes
- Research to Build and Present Knowledge

Mathematical Practice: Measurement & Data

- Tell and Write Time

National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies

- Theme 1: CULTURE
- Theme 2: TIME, CONTINUITY, AND CHANGE
- Theme 3: PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS

National Core Arts Standards for Visual Arts

- CREATING
- RESPONDING

Next Generation Science Standards

- EARTH'S PLACE IN THE UNIVERSE

National Core Music Standards

- Listening to, analyzing, and describing music.
- Evaluating music and music performances.

Using a TeachersFirst® Reading Trek to Explore This Book

TeachersFirst Reading Treks create a virtual field trip of resources about a piece of literature or a text using the My Maps feature of Google Maps. To motivate and enrich student reading, teachers and students can reference this visual collection of web resources and images as they relate to the contents of a book.

TeachersFirst has done the hard work for you! Use the activities in this teacher guide and the accompanying Reading Trek map as you and your students explore this book. And, if you feel inspired, you (or your students) can create your own Reading Trek about this or another book!

Using This Reading Trek in Class

Below is a list of ideas for how to use this Reading Trek in your educational setting.

Working with the Map:

1. Introduce the book to the class by displaying the Reading Trek map on an interactive whiteboard and highlighting its various layers.
2. Using the illustrations on a given page, ask students to predict the time of day and possibly the season at greater latitudes.
3. After identifying your time zone, use this Where in the World Do You Live activity PDF to have students draw what may be happening at the selected time.
4. Investigate shadows by placing various objects on photosensitive paper or using flashlights to create students' shadows or silhouettes. You can trace silhouettes on black paper using chalk dipped in water.

5. After listening to the story, ask students to use text clues to identify the missing pieces of the illustrations found in Where in the World is the Missing Picture.

Extension Activities:

1. Make a sundial using the directions found in the book.
2. Using the authors' Incorporating Performing Arts activity, ask pairs or groups of students to choose an alternative location in each time zone and use ABCya! Paint (TeachersFirst review) to produce a page for a class version of the story. Be sure to watch this tutorial video.
3. Use strips of painters' tape on a globe to mark the time zones and discuss why they exist.
4. Listen to jazz, bossa nova music, Thai classical music, and opera, then compare and contrast the different forms of music. Dig (TeachersFirst review) and Music Map (TeachersFirst review) offer nice collections of music tracks for this activity.
5. In a music classroom setting, have students use percussion instruments to mimic the music genre identified in the text.
6. Find the hidden clocks on each page of the book.
7. Take a virtual cable car ride through San Francisco using the videos " San Francisco Cable Car Ride to Fisherman's Wharf" or "How to Ride a Cable Car in San Francisco." Additional videos ("A Trip Down Market Street, (1906)," "San Francisco Cable Cars (1929)," and "Cable Cars of San Francisco (1945)") will connect the past to the present, allowing students to compare and contrast this mode of transportation over time.

Helpful Resources

From TeachersFirst:

- TeachersFirst CurriConnects Book List - Maps
- TeachersFirst Review of Google My Maps
- OK2Ask: Engage & Inspire with Reading Treks

Other Resources:

- Cascone Sheppard
- The Ewing Observer
- Gabriella Pereira's diyMFA Podcast | Gina Cascone & Bryony Williams Sheppard Interview
- Sleeping Bear Press Teaching Guides