DAILY Warm-Up 1

Name _____ Date _____

SEPARATE SCHOOLS

There has been a lot of talk recently about how best to meet the needs of students. One of the suggestions has been to place boys and girls into separate schools. Some educators feel that students would be able to focus better on their schooling if this was the case. There are approximately 100 public schools in the country that have separate schools for girls and boys. These schools claim great success.

Educators believe that girls especially benefit from this arrangement. Educators claim that girls will get more attention from teachers if there are no boys in the class. They also say that girls will speak up more if they are in all-girl classes. Educators believe that students in all-boy or all-girl classes will be better behaved.

On the other hand, other educators feel that those who support this plan are missing an important point. Boys and girls have to learn how to get along with each other. Students can't learn this if they are kept apart. These educators also feel that this model assumes that girls are weak and not able to handle competing and interacting with boys. They feel that girls do not need to be protected.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Some educators feel that girls will get more _____ if they are separated from boys.
   a. attention
   b. homework
   c. study time
   d. concentration

2. Which of the following is a reason presented in this passage as to why scientists believe separating boys and girls would benefit girls?
   a. Boys are in trouble more than girls.
   b. Boys are able to get the teacher's attention more easily.
   c. Scientists say that girls will speak up more if they are in all-girl classes.
   d. Girls are too shy when the boys are in the classroom.

3. Which of the following statements would the author of this passage most likely make?
   a. Children need to be taught how to get their teacher's attention.
   b. Parents should hold schools responsible for how girls and boys are treated differently in the classroom.
   c. Teachers should be held to higher standards about how girls and boys are treated.
   d. Educators should be aware of the differences in how boys and girls are treated and receive attention in class.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 2

Name _____ Date _____

NEW CITY PLANNERS

Many of the cities in the United States are a mess. They are crowded with too many houses and too many people. Cities have smog, too much traffic, noise, and run-down buildings. Cities continue to grow and spread, taking up more natural land and countryside.

It is time to make changes. Adults have planned cities for years, and they still produce the same outcome. It's time that kids become the city planners. New ideas and techniques are needed. Kids are an important part of the cities. Their ideas are creative and fresh. They are the future.

Each year, the Future City Competition is held. It is part of National Engineers Week. This gives kids across the United States a chance to design a city that would be easy to live in and beautiful as well. Thousands of schools send teams to participate each year. Each team is composed of three students, a professional engineer, and a teacher. They are able to use software to build a 3-D town.

Of course, it's a lot easier to design a city from scratch without all the existing problems. It's also a lot easier to fix cities on paper than in real life. But using the imagination of kids is the key to the future. Besides, the kids will be the ones living in these cities in years to come.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Why does the author of this passage think that kids should be asked to plan cities?
   a. They are innocent.
   b. They haven't been asked before.
   c. They have requested input.
   d. Their ideas are new and innovative.

2. What is the meaning of the word *existing* as used in the passage?
   a. previous
   b. current
   c. desired
   d. interfering

3. Who makes up a team for the Future City Competition?
   a. three engineers, three students
   b. three teachers, one engineer, one student
   c. engineers and students
   d. three students, one teacher, one engineer

4. Which paragraph helps you answer the previous question?
   a. first paragraph
   b. fourth paragraph
   c. third paragraph
   d. second paragraph

LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 3

Name _____ Date _____

CAPTIVE WHALES

People from around the world love to come watch whales perform at sea-animal aquariums and theme parks across the country. At first glance, this may seem harmless enough, but it is not. After researching the lasting effect on these whales, some marine biologists are wondering if these whales should be set free. Keeping whales locked up and out of their natural habitat is cruel and should be prohibited. They feel that it's just not the humane thing to be doing.

It's understandable that people love to see these whales and dolphins doing tricks and entertaining audiences, but at what expense? These whales are trapped and confined and ordered to perform on command. In the wild, whales and dolphins live in groups, but in the aquariums and theme parks they live alone. It's been said that they receive little medical care as well. Evidence of this is the sores they have covering their skin.

Other marine biologists claim that these whales and dolphins receive excellent care and live in state-of-the-art conditions. Their homes at the aquariums and theme parks are of the highest quality. They feel they get better treatment than if they lived in the wild. They further claim that many of these whales have been saved from the wild. If left out in the wild, they would have died.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. In the wild, whales usually live in . . .
   a. solitary confinement.
   b. groups.
   c. colonies.
   d. coral reefs.
2. What do some scientists say the sores on whale skin show evidence of?
   a. The whales receive little medical care.
   b. They are allergic to the water they live in.
   c. They are suffering from depression.
   d. They are not receiving enough vitamins and nutrients.
3. Why do other marine biologists say that the whales in these conditions are doing just fine?

   _____

   _____

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 4

Name _____ Date _____

THE V CHIP

One of the newest things in television technology is the V chip. The idea behind the V chip is to protect children from violence on television, but is that really what it does?

This sounds like a good plan, but just like most new ideas, there are many things that still need to be considered. Television producers don't like the V chip because they feel like they are being monitored and censored. Whose responsibility is it to monitor what can be shown on television or not?

There are many questions associated with this issue. For example, who decides the definition of violence? Does the government have the right to decide this? Do the parents? Do the broadcasting companies? What happens if people can't agree? The V chip is only successful with standards for what is considered violent and what is not.

Opponents also say that they don't think the V chip or other such forms of monitoring and censoring will be effective. Kids know more about technology and how it works than their parents do. Will they know how to reprogram a television just as soon as they set it up with the V chip?

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is the purpose of the V chip?
   a. to allow free television minutes
   b. to protect children from seeing violence on television
   c. to reprogram the television to work with VCR
   d. a program designed for the government to monitor television shows
2. What is the key question associated with implementing the V chip?

   _____
3. What is the main idea of paragraph two?
   a. to explain the concerns parents have about violence on television
   b. to explain the benefits of implementing the V chip
   c. to explain the benefits of television producers monitoring shows
   d. to explain the questions and issues related to the V chip
4. Which of the following is <u>not</u> one of the reasons opponents do not like the V chip?
   a. Kids know more about technology, the V chip, and how it works than their parents do.
   b. They don't think the V chip or other such forms of monitoring and censoring will be effective.
   c. They feel that children will be able to override the V chip.
   d. They don't feel it's the government's right to monitor or censor programs.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

DAILY Warm-Up 5

Name _____ Date _____

SCHOOL FUNDING

School funding is one of the biggest issues in schools today. There just isn't enough money to go around. Many schools across the country are so old that they are falling apart. Each time it rains, hallways are filled with buckets and trash cans to catch the water. Some schools are filled with mold, causing problems for children and teachers allergic to mold. This mold can also be toxic. Old schools that are falling apart are often safety hazards, as well.

Another problem with our education is that the schools are not funded properly. Teachers struggle on a daily basis to teach lessons with no paper or materials available to do so. How can a teacher possibly teach students without the necessary supplies? Schools cannot afford to hire enough teachers, either. The ratio of students to teachers is much too high to meet the needs of all the students. The government spends a lot of money on programs that are not necessary. The government should stop this waste and send this money to the schools.

Educators feel that schools can no longer be ignored. There will be a price to pay. Uneducated students cannot be as productive in society. Society pays the price in the cost of crime and violence and families on welfare.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. Which would be another good title for this reading passage?
   a. "Choose Your Own School"
   b. "My Community, My Choice"
   c. "Schools vs. Government"
   d. "Schools Need Money"

2. Which of the following is the main reason to support school funding?
   a. Another problem with our education is that the schools are not funded properly.
   b. Many schools across the country are so old they are falling apart.
   c. Schools cannot afford to hire enough teachers either.
   d. Uneducated students cannot be as productive in society.

3. What is meant by the word *productive* as used in this passage?
   a. amorous
   b. industrious
   c. ineffective
   d. reliant

4. What will ultimately happen if schools do not receive money to teach students?
   a. Students will have to skip grades.
   b. Teachers will have to use their own money.
   c. Schools will have to be shut down.
   d. Students will not receive adequate education.

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