

 SCHOLASTIC

CLASSROOM MAGAZINES

Junior Scholastic Skills



Junior Scholastic engages young teens with high-interest nonfiction materials. Each issue meets classroom needs for compelling features on current events, countries in the news, and American and world history that are geared toward students. Our yearlong program is designed to make key curriculum connections and boost reading comprehension, critical thinking, vocabulary, research skills, visual literacy, and map skills. *Junior Scholastic* also offers debates, plays, political cartoons, crossword puzzles, and character education.

The following essential skills are addressed in *Junior Scholastic*:

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

- **Read aloud a variety of genres:**
 - Nonfiction
 - Plays
 - Opinion pieces
- **Practice conversation skills through discussions of text**
- **Learn and use new vocabulary**
- **Practice communication and public-speaking skills through debates:**
 - Present opinions with supporting information
 - Practice speaking for a specific audience
- **Practice strategies to determine word meanings:**
 - Use context clues
 - Use definitions given within the text
- **Master dictionary and pronunciation skills**

READING COMPREHENSION

- **Experience reading as an enjoyable and useful activity**
- **Read with a purpose**
- **Build reading stamina**
- **Master comprehension strategies using excerpts from primary sources:**
 - Interpret text
 - Make inferences
 - Retain and apply information learned
 - Develop strong critical-thinking skills
 - Opinion vs. fact
- **Use the text to develop and support opinions**
- **Answer questions based on the text**
- **Apply understanding of a variety of nonfiction features in reading, such as:**
 - Columns
 - Captions
 - Interviews
 - Bullets
 - Headlines
 - Maps, graphs, and charts
- **Practice fluency through repeated readings in school and at home**

WRITING

- **Experience writing as an enjoyable and useful activity**
- **Use complex graphic organizers**
- **Respond to a variety of topics in writing**
- **Develop writing stamina:**
 - Write at length on a single topic
- **Write in different genres:**
 - Letters
 - Critiques
 - Persuasive and reflection pieces
 - Short-answer questions
 - Short and long essays
- **Practice technical-writing skills**
- **Practice creative-writing skills**



Nonfiction text motivates students.

Students learn compass direction and how to read a street map.



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Skills Development: *Junior Scholastic*

SCIENCE

- **Understand important science concepts and topics, including:**
 - Earth and space
 - Technology
 - Health and fitness
 - Science and society
- **Interpret and use visual aids usually seen in science texts, including:**
 - Diagrams
 - Tables
 - Graphs
 - Charts

RESEARCH

- **Independently research a variety of topics related to the text**
- **Gather and present research data using a variety of resources**
- **Use research to develop strong, supported opinions and ideas**
- **Present research in an organized, clear way**

MATH

- **Learn math through current events and social studies topics**
- **Understand basic math, such as:**
 - Fractions
 - Decimals
 - Percents
 - Ratios and proportions
 - Statistics
 - Large numbers

SOCIAL STUDIES

- **Understand important social studies concepts and topics, including:**
 - Culture
 - Time, continuity, and change
 - People, places, and environments
 - Individual development and identity
 - Individuals, groups, and institutions
 - Power, authority, and governance
 - Production, distribution, and consumption
 - Science, technology, and society
 - Global connections
 - Civic ideals and practices
- **Analyze a variety of maps, including:**
 - World
 - Regional
 - Political
 - Population
 - Cartograms
 - Historical
 - Topographical
- **Master map skills, including:**
 - Latitude and longitude
 - Scale and distance
 - Compass direction
 - Hemispheres
 - World time zones
- **Analyze and reflect upon relevant social studies issues through discussions and writing**
- **Analyze political cartoons**

TEST PREPARATION

- **Practice answering questions similar to those on standardized tests**
- **Practice general test-taking skills**
- **Build test-taking stamina through practice tests:**
 - Answer questions that increase in difficulty
- **Answer different types of questions in preparation for standardized tests:**
 - Multiple choice
 - Fill-in-the-blanks
 - True or false
 - Open-ended questions
 - Vocabulary
 - Critical thinking
 - Comprehension