

WHAT IN THE WORLD?



LEVELS 1 & 2 (GRADES 5 AND UP)

Flood: Ottawa Valley and NB under water

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BREAKING NEWS
MAY 2019

Routing Slip: (please circulate)



TO THE TEACHER

WHAT IN THE WORLD?

BREAKING NEWS

May 2019

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WHAT IN THE WORLD?® is published eight times during the school year by:

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HAY'SXW'QA!

LesPlan is grateful to the Lkwungen Peoples, the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, on whose unceded land we now live, and do our work.

We welcome your comments and appreciate your suggestions. Please contact us at any time.

MISSION STATEMENT

LesPlan Educational Services Ltd. aims to help teachers develop students' understanding of and ability to critically assess current issues and events by providing quality up-to-date, affordable, ready-to-use resources.

SUGGESTED APPROACH

WHAT IN THE WORLD? is a complete current events program that can be used on its own or to supplement an existing classroom routine. This classroom-ready resource offers 'something for everyone' and can be taught as a whole or in parts, in-class, or as a homework assignment.

WHAT IN THE WORLD?:

• ALLOWS FOR DIFFERENTIATED LEARNING

WHAT IN THE WORLD? is available in two levels to meet your students' varied learning needs.

A Word file containing each month's articles and questions is also posted online, so you can quickly and easily modify the articles and/or questions to suit your students' specific needs.

• IS TECH-FRIENDLY

Project each month's pdf on your Promethean or Smart Board to read articles together. Our pdfs also work seamlessly with assistive reading technology like Kurzweil. Try uploading them to Google Classroom!

• IS EASY TO USE

Easily access links referenced in **WHAT IN THE WORLD?** by visiting www.lesplan.com/en/links

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

A publication schedule listing the release dates for each issue is posted on the Subscriber page of our website at:

www.lesplan.com/en/subscriber-issues

Please contact us at any time with your questions or concerns.



GET ARTICLES AND BREAKING NEWS STORIES FREE ONLINE

Articles and supplementary materials for breaking news stories are posted at www.lesplan.com.

Download as many as you'd like!



WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE



Heavy rains and rivers swollen with melted snow caused catastrophic flooding in parts of New Brunswick, Ontario, and Quebec last month.

RUSHING RIVERS

The Saint John River in New Brunswick flooded in April. When it overflowed, low-lying areas became lakes, and houses became islands.

Over 150 roads in were closed, including the Trans-Canada Highway, a crucial transportation artery.

Over 16,000 properties were affected and hundreds of people were displaced. New Brunswick's Director of Emergency Measures estimated the damage to be in the "tens of millions."

Meanwhile, people along the Ottawa River from Canada's capital to Montreal experienced devastating floods. A big **snowpack** and heavy precipitation drove peak water levels half a metre higher than records set in 2017.

In Ottawa, 1.5 million sandbags held back the water. Across the river, another 850,000 protected Gatineau.

By April 21, Quebec had five major floods in 51 communities. Then disaster struck.

BREACHED

A section of **dike** on the Lake of Two Mountains just west of Montreal broke. A wall of water and debris rushed toward the suburb of Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac.

"The water came pouring in just like a **tsunami**.... It wasn't there and then it was there," said one resident. "You had to get out fast."

Everyone escaped safely, but a third of the town was under water. In some places, it was two metres deep!

Quebec's floods broke records set just two years ago. By the end of April, 6400 homes were flooded, with another 3500 surrounded by water. More than 10,000 people were forced from their homes, most of them from Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac.

TO THE RESCUE!

The flooding was so great that Ottawa, Montreal, and dozens of smaller municipalities declared a

PREDICTING THE FUTURE

Almost two million Canadian households are at very high risk for flooding, but most don't even know it.

Why? Thanks to years of funding cuts, the annual flood records that help **climatologists** and municipalities predict and **mitigate** flooding are badly outdated.

These records often don't reflect the impact of climate change, which adds to the inaccuracy of flood patterns and underestimates the size and dimensions of floodplains.

Floodwaters naturally flow into these low-lying areas. But instead of using floodplains as a **buffer** to protect the community, municipalities have allowed people to build there.

Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac, for example, is built on a lakebed. Until dikes were built in the 1980s, the area was a cottage community that flooded regularly.

DEFINITIONS

BUFFER: something that serves as a protective barrier

CLIMATOLOGIST: a scientist who studies climate

DIKE: a long wall built to prevent flooding

MITIGATE: reduce the severity or seriousness of something

SNOWPACK: seasonal accumulation of slow-melting packed snow

TSUNAMI: an unusually large sea wave produced by a seaquake or undersea volcanic eruption



WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE

state of emergency. They simply didn't have the financial resources and staff to keep residents and property safe.

The Canadian Armed Forces assigned 2000 soldiers to fill and stack sandbags and evacuate flood-stricken areas.

"We'll be here as long as we're needed," promised federal Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan.

The Canadian Red Cross stepped in as well. It opened relief centres throughout the affected areas, offering flood victims food, water, support, and a safe place to sleep.

HEALTH HAZARDS

As the water started to **recede**, the hard work of recovery began.

Cleaning and repairing damage is a **gargantuan** task. Health Canada cautioned that homes and wells could be contaminated with **sewage** and dangerous chemicals. It warned residents to drink bottled water, use disinfectant, and wear masks, gloves, rubber boots and eye protection. They were advised to dispose of wet drywall, insulation, carpets, and possessions to prevent mould.

PAYING THE PRICE

Frequent flooding is Canada's new normal. Our climate is warming at twice the global average. This will lead to higher annual rainfall, more intense storms, and bigger, more frequent floods that linger longer and cause greater damage.

Who is paying the price for these floods? Insurance claims for the first four months of 2019 are expected to reach \$1 billion, compared to \$2 billion for all of 2018.

The price tag is also rising for federal and provincial disaster relief programs that help people rebuild lost or damaged homes and businesses.

AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION

However, governments are rethinking the wisdom of paying people to rebuild in locations vulnerable to future flooding. It simply isn't sustainable.

"The federal government and the provinces and municipalities need to think through very carefully how we prevent ourselves from simply doing the same old thing over and over and over again, and expecting a different result," said federal Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale.

Quebec hopes to reduce the number of repeat claims with new buyout **incentives** in flood-prone areas. The province has capped compensation to rebuild in a high-risk area at \$100,000, but offers up to \$200,000 to move to higher, drier locations. The reclaimed land could then be converted to open space or parkland.

The New Brunswick government, where 70 percent of those who asked for emergency relief last year got help, is considering a similar policy.

"We're not just going to keep hoping for the best every year," said Premier Blaine Higgs. "We're going to start putting in a methodical path in order to minimize the risk to life and limb and property. It won't be just kind of going forward, blindly repairing. It's about asking how we make this disaster-proof." ★

KASHECHEWAN WAITS

Kashechewan First Nation was evacuated in early April. This remote Cree community is located in northeast Ontario at the mouth of the Albany River where it empties into James Bay. It has flooded every year for 17 years. The 2500 residents were flown out for their safety to communities like Timmins and Kapuskasing.

"We've been displaced and dislocated every spring, and we lost a lot of our cultural traditions and teaching," said Kashechewan Chief Leo Friday.

Arthur Kooseses, 13, has been evacuated every spring for his whole life.

"That's all I've known," he said.

The federal government relocated the community in 1957, moving it from islands off Albany's south shore to the current location, a known floodplain. For years, Kashechewan has asked the government to move the community to higher ground. In 2017, the federal and provincial governments finally signed an action plan. Two years later, residents are still waiting.

"We never know until the ice jams break whether this is the catastrophic year that wipes out the community. We are playing Russian roulette with peoples' lives," said NDP MP Charlie Angus. "Everybody deserves to live in a safe community."

Derek Fox, Deputy Grand Chief of Nishnawbe Aski Nation said, "You see in Ottawa, the response is immediate. They pretty much call in the army to come save everyone," he said.

"If Kashechewan were non-Native, we'd have action already."

DEFINITIONS

GARGANTUAN: huge

INCENTIVE: something that encourages a person to do something

SEWAGE: water and waste flushed down drains and toilets

RECEDE: ebb or drain away

STATE OF EMERGENCY: a temporary system of rules to deal with an extremely dangerous or difficult situation



ON THE LINES

Answer the following in complete sentences:

1. Where is Kashechewan located?

2. What happened to the residents of this community in early April?

3. Why this is such a regular event in this remote community? Explain.

4. Name the large river in New Brunswick that recently overflowed its banks.

5. Describe what happened in many areas near the river.

6. Which other large river on the Ontario-Quebec border also overflowed?

7. Describe the damage that occurred in this region, and explain why Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac was flooded.

8. What did many flooded communities declare because of the flooding? Why did they do this?

9. What type of assistance did flood victims receive?

10. List at least three warnings issued to returning residents by Health Canada.

11. Explain why scientists believe these types of disasters will increase in the future.

**BETWEEN THE LINES**

As a member of the Red Cross helping Canadian flood victims, write an email to your parents living in Vancouver, B.C. describing what you are seeing, feeling, and experiencing as a result of the record water levels.

OR

As a member of the Kashechewan Cree First Nation who has been evacuated again, write an email to your cousins living in Halifax, Nova Scotia and describe what you are seeing, feeling, and experiencing as a result of the flooding.

A good email *includes key facts and supporting details, is believable, and shows imagination.*

JUST TALK ABOUT IT

1. As you see it, what is the significance of this article? Explain.
2. What reasons can you suggest to explain why over the years, some people have built homes and roads in areas that can flood easily?
3. Many people have had their lives disrupted as a result of the flooding. As you see it, who should be responsible for helping people who have been affected by the flooding, in the short term and in the long term? Explain.

ONLINE

Note: The links below are listed at www.lesplan.com/en/links for easy access.

1. View a video of the flood that hit Beauceville, Quebec in mid-April after a big snowfall: Visit:
<https://youtu.be/VvS2ofqTu34> [3:35]
2. See CBC news reports on communities in Quebec, New Brunswick, and Eastern Ontario that were hit by spring flooding:
April 22 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kLYlwq7BIW4> [4:02]
April 26 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PG27w9TSVJs> [14:45]
April 27 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tDVD-6GoTyE> [8:01]
3. Floods 101: View a National Geographic video about flooding:
<https://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/00000144-0a2c-d3cb-a96c-7b2d9of30000> [3:29]
4. Find out more about flooding in Canada at:
<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/floods-and-flood-control>
5. See how the Government of Canada monitors and responds to ice break-up and flood events at:
<https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/hazards/floods>
6. Find out more about the history of flooding in Canada at:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_flooding_in_Canada
7. Find out about flooding events and causes from the National Geographic:
<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/flood/>
8. Read a 2016 U.S. Government report about the effects of urban development on floods:
<https://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/fso7603/>
9. Visit Floodlist for news and information on the latest flood events from around the world, including Canada:
<http://floodlist.com>
10. Read 'How Floods Work': <https://science.howstuffworks.com/nature/natural-disasters/flood.htm> ★



WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE

Directions:

1. Study the photograph below.
2. Then, complete each quadrant on the **Getting Inside the Picture** chart. Use as many details as you can.
3. Now, select one of your powerful words. Use this as a springboard for a 5-minute **Quick Write**. Let your pen flow. A *good descriptive paragraph* has vivid details and helps the reader “get inside the picture” (experience the event as if he/she were right there).
4. Generate three possible titles for this picture. Then select the one that best captures the essence of the image. Explain why this is the most suitable title.



Residents, friends and volunteers work to hold back floodwaters on the Ottawa River in Constance Bay, Ont. on Monday, April 29, 2019. (THE CANADIAN PRESS/Sean Kilpatrick)



WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE

Title: _____

Senses

What might you hear, smell, taste or touch?
What colours, textures, sounds, movements might you experience?

Images

What details in the photograph create vivid pictures in your mind?

Words

What powerful words describe the scene?
What might you think, wonder, say if you were there?

Feelings

What do you feel when you look at this image?
What might the people in the region where the photograph was taken be feeling?

Quick write

Possible titles:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

The best title is # _____ because . . .



PUZZLE

WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE



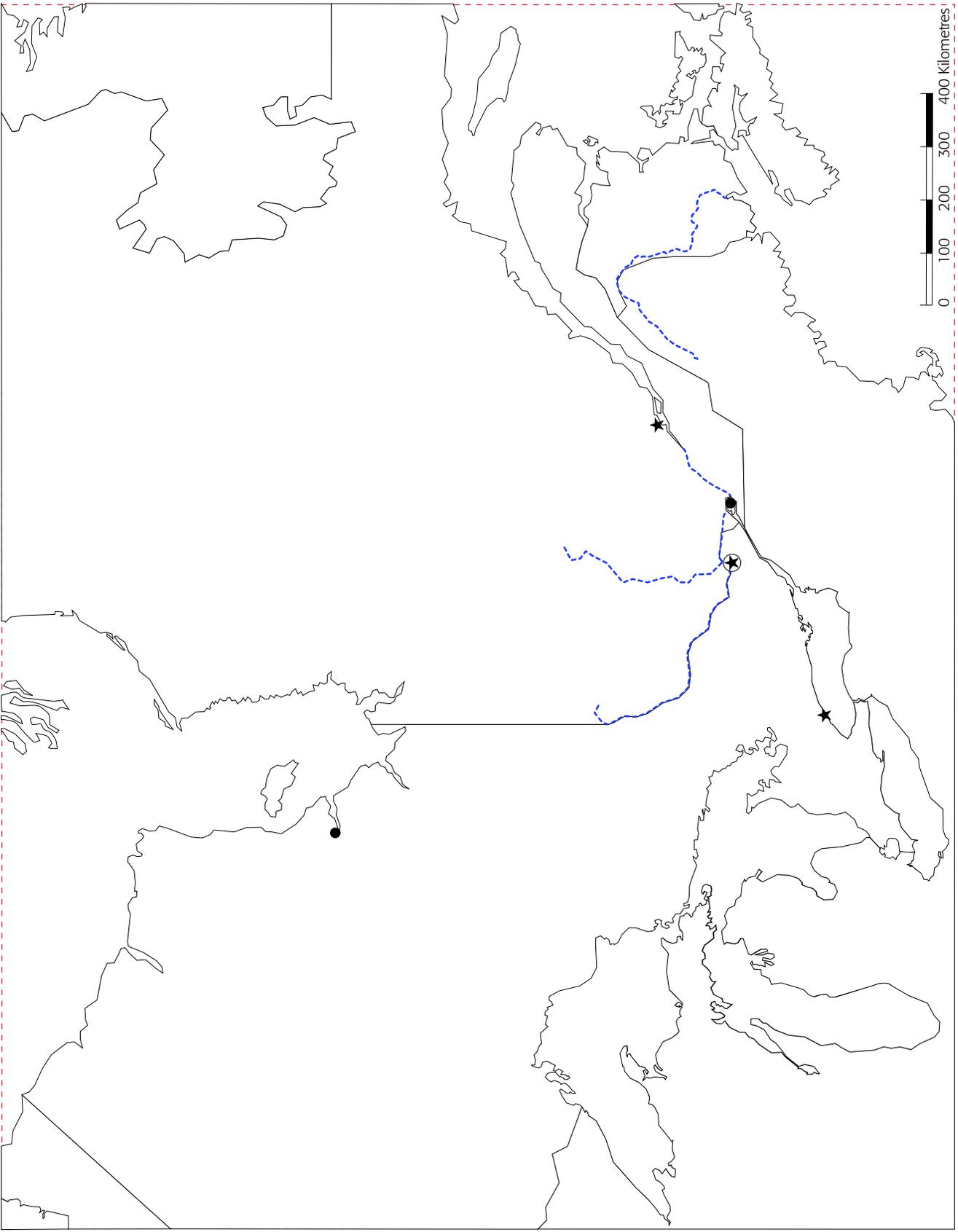
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:2017_Quebec_Floods_-_Montreal_\(34416135641\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:2017_Quebec_Floods_-_Montreal_(34416135641).jpg)

ACROSS

- 2. river that regularly floods Kashechewan
- 3. Canada's climate is warming at _____ the global average
- 5. St. _____ River in New Brunswick flooded
- 7. rain, snow, hail, etc.
- 11. worldwide humanitarian organization
- 12. many municipalities declared a 'state of _____'
- 13. river between Ontario and Quebec
- 14. a long wall built to prevent flooding

DOWN

- 1. federal defence minister
- 4. scientist who studies climate
- 6. to save or reclaim something that is lost or damaged
- 8. Kashechewan residents have been _____ 17 times
- 9. federal public safety minister
- 10. large ocean wave
- 11. when water drains away



Current Events, Clearly Explained



Students want to know what's happening in their world – but the news can be difficult and time-consuming to teach.

WE HAVE THE SOLUTION. (Four, actually.)

The Canadian Reader Nos Nouvelles

- ✓ Print/pdf resource
- ✓ Clearly written, leveled Canadian current events articles
- ✓ Literacy-based lesson plans
- ✓ Engaging, original illustrations
- ✓ Comics
- ✓ Map assignments



Product details: 32 pages. Available in English and in French for grades 3 and up.

Currents4Kids.com Infos-Jeunes.com

- ✓ Online interactive resource
- ✓ Weekly news stories
- ✓ Auto-graded quizzes
- ✓ Comment page for students to respond to the stories
- ✓ Links to relevant articles, resources, maps, photos and videos
- ✓ Suggested activities and a Word Work assignment



One subscription allows all teachers and students access to this site from any Internet-connected device at any time. Available in English and in French, for grades 3 and up.

What in the World? Le Monde en Marche

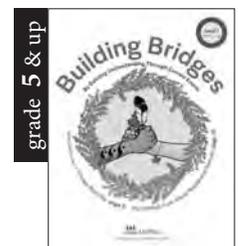
- ✓ Print/pdf resource
- ✓ National and international news stories
- ✓ Key vocabulary
- ✓ Background information
- ✓ Varied assignments that build content-area knowledge and enhance critical thinking
- ✓ Maps and illustrations



Product details: 32 pages. Available in English and in French, and in two reading levels, for grades 5 and up.

(NEW!) Building Bridges Bâtir des ponts

- ✓ Print/pdf resource
- ✓ Builds understanding of current events that impact Indigenous Peoples and all Canadians
- ✓ Two theme-based articles and lesson plans
- ✓ Background information
- ✓ Consistent with First Peoples Principles of Learning
- ✓ Encourages a respectful, reflective, empathetic, and inquiring frame of mind



Product details: Variable page length. Available in English and in French, and in two reading levels, for grades 5 and up.

1-888-240-2212 www.lesplan.com

Contact us for a sample copy or free demo.

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Email: info@lesplan.com

Students Can Work In Word . . .



Did you know...

. . . that each issue of *The Canadian Reader*, *What in the World?* and *Building Bridges* includes a PDF file (complete document) and a **Word file** (articles and questions only)

Students can complete assignments directly in the word file. Teachers can email the file to students or post it on the Internet. The **Word file** also allows teachers to:

- easily modify and format content including changing **fonts** and **text sizes**
- create a **PDF** document and use **Adobe Reader's** 'Read Out Loud Mode'
- save paper and copying costs and help protect the environment
- promote and encourage students' computer skills

Password Security

There are **three** ways to access data from a password protected file:

- 1) To remove the password, use the **Save As** command to save a new copy of the file. You can then remove the password by changing the **Security** settings.
- 2) Select the data you wish to **Copy** and then **Paste** it into a new Word file, or into any another word processing program.
- 3) You can import the entire Word file into **LibreOffice** (or another similar program) and then save as a new file.

Google Docs and LibreOffice

- You can easily upload the Word file to **Google Docs** to share it with students or other teachers.
- You can translate **Google Docs** into another language (*see Tools>Translate document*) but you will need to edit the document to suit your requirements. **Google Docs** can translate into over 100 languages including Spanish, Mandarin, and German.
- **LibreOffice** is a free alternate to **Microsoft Office** and offers the same functionality. It's easy to install and use.

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PRINT/PDF SUBSCRIPTIONS

Publication	Language	Grade Level	Pricing		Amount
			4 Issues (Sept. - Dec.)	8 issues (Sept. - May)	
<i>The Canadian Reader</i>	English	Grades 3 and up	<input type="checkbox"/> \$99	<input type="checkbox"/> \$198	
<i>Nos Nouvelles</i>	Français	À partir de la 3 ^e année	<input type="checkbox"/> 99 \$	<input type="checkbox"/> 198 \$	
<i>What in the World?</i> - Level 1	English	Grades 5 and up	<input type="checkbox"/> \$99	<input type="checkbox"/> \$198	
<i>Le Monde en Marche</i> - Niveau 1	Français	À partir de la 5 ^e année	<input type="checkbox"/> 99 \$	<input type="checkbox"/> 198 \$	
<i>What in the World?</i> - Level 2	English	Grades 8 and up	<input type="checkbox"/> \$99	<input type="checkbox"/> \$198	
<i>Le Monde en Marche</i> - Niveau 2	Français	À partir de la 8 ^e année	<input type="checkbox"/> 99 \$	<input type="checkbox"/> 198 \$	
			5 issues (Sept. - May)		
<i>Building Bridges</i> - Level 1	English	Grades 5 and up	<input type="checkbox"/> \$120		
<i>Bâtir des ponts</i> - Niveau 1	Français	À partir de la 5 ^e année	<input type="checkbox"/> 120 \$		
<i>Building Bridges</i> - Level 2	English	Grades 8 and up	<input type="checkbox"/> \$120		
<i>Bâtir des ponts</i> - Niveau 2	Français	À partir de la 8 ^e année	<input type="checkbox"/> 120 \$		
Subtotal A					

ONLINE INTERACTIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS

Publication	Language	Grade Level	Pricing		Amount
			5 months (Sept. - Jan.)	10 months (Sept. - June)	
<i>Currents4Kids</i>	English	Grades 3 and up	<input type="checkbox"/> \$99	<input type="checkbox"/> \$198	
<i>Infos-Jeunes</i>	Français	À partir de la 3 ^e année	<input type="checkbox"/> 99 \$	<input type="checkbox"/> 198 \$	
Subtotal B					
			ON add 13% HST NB, NL, NS & PEI add 15% HST		HST
			All others add 5% GST		GST
TOTAL					



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