The Canadian Reader
Current Canadian events and issues for students in Grades 3 and up

Free Sample

Includes

• A News Story
• Lesson Plan
• Organizer

Subscribe to receive 2 additional articles, answer keys, & more!

4 Free Article: Drone Delivery – Coming Right Up!
6 Comprehension Check | 7 Language Focus
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11 Map: Vancouver Island

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Ella Kim-Marriot doesn’t buy new clothes. None. She quit four years ago, in Grade 10. Why no new clothes? At first, it was a one-year challenge she set for herself. Now it’s a way of life . . .

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With a subscription, you’ll receive eight full issues.

Each issue combines current Canadian events and issues with geography to expand students' knowledge of Canada while enhancing their ability to read and understand informational text.

Three levelled news stories are accompanied by detailed literacy-based lesson plans, organizers, and criteria for assessment, as well as comprehension checks and a language focus.

“Your package will be a part of my classroom for many years to come!!!”
- M. Schneider, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

"I love this publication! It is an excellent complement to my Social Studies curriculum and the activities enable me to cover many provincial outcomes."
- S. Giffin, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

"When I have kids in grade 4/5 wanting to know when the next issue is coming, even in December and June, that’s when I know I have an excellent resource."
- A. Eisler, Burnaby, B.C.
The Canadian Reader is published eight times during the school year in English and in French from September through May by LesPlan Educational Services Ltd.

Subscribe to The Canadian Reader at a cost of $198 per year ($24.75 per issue), by contacting us at:

LesPlan Educational Services Ltd.
#1 - 4144 Wilkinson Road
Victoria, BC V8Z 5A7

The Canadian Reader is protected by copyright. Subscribers receive one copy of the publication each month and may photocopy each issue for use by all students and teachers within one school.

How to use this resource:

The Canadian Reader is a made-in-Canada teaching and learning resource featuring all-Canadian content. It has three main components: use the entire package, or pick and choose the pages that suit your class the best.

1. **Literacy Focus** – This generic lesson plan focuses on seven key non-fiction reading comprehension strategies, presented in the following order:
   - Issue 1: Using Text Features
   - Issue 2: Making Connections
   - Issue 3: Visualizing
   - Issue 4: Asking Questions
   - Issue 5: Making Inferences
   - Issue 6: Determining Importance
   - Issue 7: Transforming/Synthesizing
   - Issue 8: Reading Strategies Review and Assessment

   Teachers may introduce and practice each month’s strategy using any of the articles in the issue, or save it for another time or text.

2. **Canadian news stories** – Each of the three articles is leveled and accompanied by Comprehension Check questions, a Language Focus, and a literacy-based lesson plan and supporting materials. Teach the lessons as they are presented, or pick and choose the activities and assignments you’d like to explore with your students.

3. **Did You Know? comic** – This comic provides basic information about a current news story or event, or supports one of the articles with background information. It’s a great way to engage reluctant readers and build students’ background knowledge in a fun and graphic way.

Note: All URLs referenced in The Canadian Reader are posted as links on our student website at [http://www.lesplan.com/en/links](http://www.lesplan.com/en/links). Bookmark this URL on your school’s computer network to give students easy access to our recommended sites.

Share The Canadian Reader with other staff members in your school, including itinerant, relief, and substitute teachers.
Drones are not yet making regular deliveries in Canada. But it may not be long now.

In August, a drone made a test run. It travelled from Vancouver Island to nearby Salt Spring Island – a six-kilometre flight. It flew at 50 kilometres per hour, 75 metres above the ground. The drone carried emergency medical supplies. It arrived eleven minutes later.

Meanwhile, Edmonton’s airport is preparing for drone deliveries. It is adding drone take-off and landing zones. The drones will fly to places in western and northern Canada. They should be cleared for take-off by early next year.

**What is a drone?**

A drone is an unmanned aerial vehicle. Drones are already quite common. For instance, people use them to take aerial photos and videos. Or they fly them as a hobby.

Drones can also be used to make deliveries. That’s especially handy for places that are difficult to get to by vehicle. Remote hospitals or mining camps, for example.

Drones can be small or large. Small ones carry up to five kilograms of cargo. Large drones could transport machinery.

An operator controls the drones remotely. They contain cameras and sensors. The
drones can adjust their route depending on the weather. They can detect obstacles such as electrical wires or helicopters. They can alert nearby pilots that there’s a drone in their airspace.

**New technology, new rules**

Drone technology is improving all the time. Companies are eager to start using them for deliveries. London Drugs, for instance, wants to deliver prescription medications by drone.

In other parts of the world, drones are already hard at work. In Africa, they transport vaccines, drugs, and blood to rural hospitals. In Iceland, they deliver take-out food to places that are hard to get to by car.

So what’s the hold up in Canada? Government regulators. They need to be sure drones are safe. They don’t want the machines falling out of the sky. They don’t want collisions with other aircraft.

Current regulations say that a drone must be within sight of its operator at all times. That’s not possible for a drone delivery service. So regulators need to figure out new rules.

Experts say we also need an air traffic control system for drones. It would alert drones to other drones flying nearby. They might need to adjust their flight paths to avoid collisions. The more drones there are in an area, the more important that will be.

So Canada is not quite ready for drone deliveries. It’s probably coming, though. Some day, your package might not be delivered to your door by a delivery truck. It might be delivered by a drone!

**For what reasons are you in favour of drone deliveries? For what reasons are you against them?**

Edmonton airport is patrolled by robirds. Robirds are drones painted to look like falcons, with flapping wings. They scare other birds away from planes’ flightpaths.
**Drone Delivery – Coming Right Up!**

**Comprehension Check**

Write the letter of the *best* answer in the space beside each question.

_____ 1. **What is a drone?**
   a) An airplane.  
   b) A delivery truck.  
   c) An unmanned aerial vehicle.  
   d) An unmanned terrestrial vehicle.

_____ 2. **Who controls a drone?**
   a) A pilot in the drone.  
   b) An operator on the ground.  
   c) Airport traffic control.  
   d) No one controls a drone.

_____ 3. **What can drones transport?**
   a) Medical supplies.  
   b) Machinery.  
   c) Take-out food.  
   d) All of the above.

_____ 4. **Where was a drone delivery test run made in August?**
   a) Between Vancouver Island and Salt Spring Island.  
   b) Between Edmonton and northern Canada.  
   c) Between a hospital and a mining camp in western Canada.  
   d) There hasn’t been a test run yet.

_____ 5. **What are Canadian regulators most concerned about when it comes to drones?**
   a) Money issues.  
   b) Health issues.  
   c) Safety issues.  
   d) They do not have any concerns.
Drone Delivery – Coming Right Up!

Language Focus

Connect the words with their definition.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>relating to the countryside</th>
<th>aerial</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>piece of equipment that reacts to changes in heat, light, etc.</td>
<td>collision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>operating in the air</td>
<td>obstacle</td>
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<tr>
<td>an official rule</td>
<td>regulation</td>
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<tr>
<td>an object that is in the way</td>
<td>regulator</td>
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<tr>
<td>an accident in which a vehicle crashes into something</td>
<td>rural</td>
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<tr>
<td>a person who makes sure rules are followed</td>
<td>sensor</td>
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<tr>
<td>lacking a crew</td>
<td>unmanned</td>
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Now use three of these words in your own sentences.

1. ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________

2. ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________

3. ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
Before Reading:
- Facilitate a Think-Pair-Share discussion, asking students to talk about drones (e.g., What do they know about them? How they are used?). If students have drones at home, you may wish to ask them to bring their drones to school for a show n’ tell.
- Read the title of the article aloud and invite students to predict what the article is about.

During Reading:
- Ask students to underline or highlight important facts about drones and drone delivery as they read.

After Reading:
- Distribute to each student, or pair of students, a copy of The Pros and Cons of Drones (p. 27). Direct them to use the article to record the advantages of using drones in the Pros column and the disadvantages of using them in the Cons column.
- When finished, invite students to brainstorm other potential uses for drones. Or, come up with solutions to make drones safer. Allow them to write or sketch their ideas at the bottom of their charts.

Criteria for Assessment: A creative solution is feasible (likely to work), unique (different than other ideas), and practical (solves a problem or brings about a positive change).

Extensions:
- **Option 1: Design a drone safety poster**
  To learn more about the Canadian government’s rules on drone safety, direct students to the link in Internet Connections. Ask them to use the information to design an informative poster for kids outlining the basic rules for flying personal drones. As a class, learn more about poster design before students create their own. The following online articles have helpful tips and examples:
  - 10 Tips for Perfect Poster Design: [https://designshack.net/articles/inspiration/10-tips-for-perfect-poster-design/](https://designshack.net/articles/inspiration/10-tips-for-perfect-poster-design/)
  - 25 ways to design an awesome poster and create buzz for your next event: [https://www.canva.com/learn/25-ways-to-design-an-awesome-poster-and-create-a-buzz-for-your-next-event/](https://www.canva.com/learn/25-ways-to-design-an-awesome-poster-and-create-a-buzz-for-your-next-event/)  
  Microsoft Word and Canva have poster templates students can use to create their posters.

- **Option 2: Learn more about the history of drones**
  Students may be interested in learning about the history of drones. There are several links listed in Internet Connections. Invite them to record how drone technology has evolved over time by focusing on features such as design and purpose. Have them speculate about the next evolution of drones and create a blueprint.
Drone Delivery – Coming Right Up!

Lesson Plan

Internet Connections:

☐ Read more about this news story:

☐ Watch a video about this news story:

☐ Learn about a Canadian company that designs delivery drones:
  https://dronedeliverycanada.com/

☐ Find out about the pros/cons of delivery drones:
  http://grinddrone.com/info/pros-cons-delivery-drones

☐ See what the Canadian government has to say about drone safety:

☐ Discover how drones are being used across different industries:
  https://www.gpsworld.com/uavs-take-flight-for-food-deliveries-runway-inspections-more/
  https://www.amazon.com/Amazon-Prime-Air/b?node=8037720011

☐ Learn how drones fly:
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Bc2nuOuRjM

☐ Curious about the history of drones? Check out these links:

Note: All URLs are posted as links at http://www.lesplan.com/en/links
# Drone Delivery – Coming Right Up!

## The Pros and Cons of Drones

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<th>Pros (+)</th>
<th>Cons (-)</th>
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Here are my creative ideas:  
☐ Other uses for drones  ☐ Ways to make them safer
Completing the following map assignment will help you to better understand the context of *Drone Delivery – Coming Right Up!*.

Label the following, then colour:

**Cities and Towns**
- Vancouver
- Duncan
- Nanaimo
- Port Alberni
- Tofino
- Powell River
- Campbell River
- Port Hardy

**Capital City**
- Victoria

**Water bodies**
- Pacific Ocean
- Salish Sea
- Fraser River

**Province**
- British Columbia

**Other**
- United States
- Vancouver Island

**Challenge:**
Locate Salt Spring Island on your map and colour it. Then, complete the key with your chosen colour.

A good map is complete, accurate, and visually appealing.
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.
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.

**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.

**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.

**(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.

**Contact us for a sample copy or free demo.**

LesPlan Educational Services Ltd.  1-144 Wilkinson Road Victoria BC  V8Z 5A7
Email: info@lesplan.com
Help your students understand today’s top stories with **WHAT IN THE WORLD?** – LesPlan’s highly-acclaimed monthly current events resource.

Engaging, levelled articles, background information and original illustrations make the news interesting and easy to grasp. Accompanying questions and assignments provide multiple ways to examine the topics and enhance literacy and critical thinking.

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Subscribe now for the rest of the 2019 - 2020 school year, and get the November and December issues FREE!

When I have kids in grade 4/5 wanting to know when the next issue is coming, even in December and June, that’s when I know I have an excellent resource.

A. Eisler, Burnaby, BC

It is a relief to have a resource that fits with the curriculum and is teacher-friendly (ready to hand out). The added bonus of having the answers to the questions and discussion notes makes my life just a little bit easier.

B. Thibodeau, Saskatoon, SK

I have been using your product for seven years. There isn’t a month that goes by that I don’t get into challenging discussions with my students with the leads you provide and go in directions I could never imagine. Thank you for this terrific teaching aid!

D. Faerber, Pembroke, ON

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**WHAT IN THE WORLD?**

**LEVELS 1 & 2 (GRADES 5 AND UP)**

The Supreme Court

Versus

Syria’s Kurds

Brexit

Turkey

Teen Vaping

**2019/2020: ISSUE 3**

A monthly current events resource for Canadian classrooms

Routing Slip: (please circulate)

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* Offer only applies to new subscriptions.

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<th>Nov. 2019 – May 2020</th>
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**GST/HST**

**Total**

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