The Canadian Reader

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

Issue 1 • Sample Edition

4 Free Article: Canada Has A New Governor General!
6 Comprehension Check  |  7 Language Focus
8 Lesson Plan  |  11 Who. What! Why?
12 Map: Ontario

Includes
• A News Story
• Lesson Plan
• Organizer

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

Teachers serving teachers since 1990

Issue 1 • Sample Edition
WHAT YOU’RE MISSING

Faster, Higher, Stronger

Paper Cranes Honour the Children

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.

* **SUBSCRIBE TODAY & GET IT ALL** *

Subscribe to read the full article. www.lesplan.com

Subscribe to read the full article. 1 (888) 240-2246
The Canadian Reader

Current Canadian events and issues for students in grades 3 and up.

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 $210 per year ($26.25 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. 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.
The role of the Governor General

Canada is a monarchy. That means we have a queen (or king). The queen doesn’t actually run the country, though. We elect politicians to do that.

Our queen lives in England. So the government chooses someone in Canada to represent her. That’s the role of the Governor General (GG).

Much of what a GG does is ceremonial. She attends events. She hands out medals and honours. She travels the country to meet Canadians.

She may also take on other projects. Ms. Simon has things she wants to work on. Climate change. Mental health. Indigenous reconciliation.

“I’m excited for Mary. I’m actually very excited for Canada,” says one Inuit leader who knows her.

Canada’s first Indigenous GG

Ms. Simon is an Inuk. She comes from Nunavik — in northern Quebec.

“My Inuk name is Ningiukudluk,” she said. She jokingly warned the Prime Minister that it means “bossy little old lady.”

Ms. Simon’s parents taught her to live in two worlds. One was the traditional Inuit world of the north. Her family hunted and fished on the land. Her father, who is not Indigenous, also taught her about the non-Inuit world in the south.
At first, she lacked confidence in that non-Inuit world. But she came to understand that her voice had power. Other Inuit were looking to her to be their voice.

“I was able to let go of my fear,” she says.

Mary Simon went on to a lifetime of accomplishment. She has been a journalist. A negotiator. An advocate for Indigenous rights. A Canadian ambassador. She has received honours and awards.

Co-workers say she handles herself with grace. She is calm and serene. She has integrity and respect.

The July 26th ceremony included the traditional 21-gun salute. But it also began with the lighting of a qulliq. That’s an Inuit oil lamp used to light and warm the home.

Also, the ceremony was broadcast in Inuktitut. That’s a first for Canada!

**Being bilingual**

Some Canadians have criticized the choice of Ms. Simon because she does not speak French. Usually the GG is fluent in both of Canada’s official languages.

The school she attended in northern Quebec did not offer French. But she plans to learn the language.

She does speak one of Canada’s founding languages though.

“Inuktitut belongs in Rideau Hall just as much as French and English,” says one Inuit leader.

Ms. Simon promises to “be there for all Canadians.”

“I’m honoured, humbled and ready to be Canada’s first Indigenous Governor General.”

What questions would you like to ask Ms. Simon?

Nunavik is in northern Quebec. It’s different from Nunavut. Nunavik means "great land" in the local dialect of Inuktitut. Nunavut means "our land".
Comprehension Check

Answer the questions below in complete sentences:

1. What is a monarchy?

2. Ms. Simon wants to work on some special projects. What are they?

3. Describe the two worlds Ms. Simon's parents taught her to live in.

4. What is a qulliq?

5. Why have some Canadians criticized the choice of Mary Simon as Governor General?
Canada Has a New Governor General!

Language Focus

An adjective is a word used to describe a noun – a person, place, or thing.

Example: long river

The adjective ‘long’ helps us understand the length of the river. It helps us to better visualize it.

A. Write adjectives for the following nouns:

1. ________________ chair
2. ________________ girl
3. ________________ kitchen
4. ________________ beach
5. ________________ parent

B. Write five adjective-noun phrases of your own.

1. __________________________
2. __________________________
3. __________________________
4. __________________________
5. __________________________

How many adjectives can you find in the article? How do these adjectives help you to better understand or visualize the nouns they are describing?
Canada Has A New Governor General!

Lesson Plan

Before Reading:
- Project, using appropriate technology, the following 4 images (or similar ones found through an image search):
  - https://images.app.goo.gl/KrYNHR9obyivUnWU9 (Rideau Hall);
  - https://www.gg.ca/en/activities/2021/governor-general-designate-announcement (Mary Simon & Justin Trudeau);
  - https://images.app.goo.gl/kSfJbJhYQpgDYTmg7 (Kuujjuaq, Nunavik);
  - https://4.bp.blogspot.com/-3kc1EhdlY7c/WCHXGWMi2YI/AAAAAAAAQTE/GILTrGwflLMMdGtlldx7DnN6rnk7SOH4wCLcB/s1600/DSCN8712.jpg (qulliq).
- Reveal each image, one at a time, and invite students to use the picture clues to predict what the article is about.
- Read the title of the article and the introduction aloud. Suggest to students that they will read to learn more about who Mary Simon is and what her role as Canada's Governor General (GG) involves, and to consider why her appointment, as Canada's first GG—who is both Indigenous and from the North (of Canada)—is important.

During Reading:
- As they read the article, ask students to mark the text in the following ways:
  - put an exclamation mark (!) next to facts that tell us about the role or responsibilities of the Governor General (GG);
  - highlight or underline things they learn about Mary Simon;
  - record a question mark (?) next to facts that hint at why she is a good choice for Canada's GG.

After Reading:
- Distribute to each student, or pair of students, a copy of Who, What! Why? (p. 21). Encourage them to use their marked text to complete the organizer.
- Wrap up by asking students to consolidate their understanding of the significance of Mary Simon's appointment by responding to these sentence stems on the back of the organizer:
  - The most important thing about Mary Simon's appointment as Canada's Governor General is...
  - I think this because...
- Alternatively, suggest to students that the media and others who have worked with Mary Simon describe the ‘Mary Simon Effect’—the impact she has on others through the way she acts and speaks, the values she upholds, and the influence she has in the projects she takes on. As a class, read excerpts from Mary Simon's first speech or watch it. Stop at appropriate points and discuss the key message(s). Ask students to reflect on the following questions—What does (her story, her promise, her commitment) in this part of the script/speech tell us about Mary Simon as a person and/or about her as the Governor General of Canada? At the end of the script/speech, ask students to consolidate their understanding of the ‘Mary Simon Effect’ by responding to these sentence stems on the back of the organizer:
Canada Has A New Governor General!

Lesson Plan

The most important effect Mary Simon will have as Canada’s Governor General is...
I think this because...

☐ Criteria for assessment: A powerful summary statement is plausible (likely to be true); shows understanding of an important idea; and is supported with relevant evidence.

Extensions:

☐ Learn more about the Governor General’s role in government: As a class, explore the links in Internet Connections that provide information on the responsibilities of the Governor General. Invite individuals or pairs of students to learn more about the duties Mary Simon will be carrying out, by creating and completing the following chart:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What</th>
<th>Why</th>
<th>Wonder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Describe the duty</td>
<td>Explain why it’s important</td>
<td>Write down what you’re wondering</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

☐ Do a close read of the poem "Mary Simon/Ningiukudluk": Using appropriate technology, project a copy of the poem written by Louise Bernice Halfe-Sky, Canada’s Parliamentary Poet Laureate, to honour of Mary Simon, or distribute one to each student or pair of students. Challenge them to infer what they can learn about Canada’s first Indigenous Governor General by doing a close read of the poem. Invite them to add new or relevant information to their Who. What! Why? chart. [One way of conducting a close read can be found on the blog ‘Ideas’ by Jivey: https://www.ideasbyjive.com/close-reading-poetry-step-by-step-mini/]

Internet Connections:

☐ Read more about this news story: https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2021/08/05/mary-simon-officially-becomes-canadas-first-indigenous-governor-general.html

☐ Watch highlights of the installation of Canada’s 30th Governor General: https://www.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=2248844
https://www.gg.ca/en/activities/2021/installation-day-highlights

☐ Learn more about Mary Simon and her commitment to Canada in her first speech as GG: https://www.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=2248547
https://www.ctvnews.ca/politics/i-will-strive-to-build-bridges-read-gov-gen-mary-simon-s-first-speech-1.5523610

☐ Read a poem created in Mary Simon’s honour: https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/governor-general-designate/installation/poem.html
Lesson Plan

☐ Find out about the accomplishments of our new GG:
   https://www.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=2248845

☐ Curious to know more about the responsibilities of Canada’s GG? Check out these links:
   https://youtu.be/cw9bKyVhswQ
   https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/governor-general

Note: All URLs are posted as links at http://www.lesplan.com/en/links
Canada Has A New Governor General!

Who. What! Why?

Who is Mary Simon?

What are her roles/responsibilities as Governor General?

Why is Mary Simon a good choice for Canada’s Governor General?
Complete this map assignment to help you better understand the context of the article Canada Has a New Governor General!

Label the following, then colour:

- **Lakes**
  - Lake Superior
  - Lake Huron
  - Lake Michigan
  - Lake Erie
  - Lake Ontario

- **Provinces**
  - Manitoba
  - Ontario
  - Quebec

- **Salt water bodies**
  - Hudson Bay
  - James Bay

- **Cities**
  - Hamilton
  - Kitchener
  - London
  - Gatineau

- **Rivers**
  - Ottawa River
  - St. Lawrence River

- **Other**
  - United States

**Did You Know?**

On maps, provincial and territorial capitals are often marked with a ★
Country capitals are often marked with a ★

What is the capital of Ontario? Label this capital on your map.

What is the capital of Canada? Label this capital on your map.

A good map is complete, accurate, and visually appealing.
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. (Five, actually.)

The Canadian Reader
PDF/Word resource
✓ Clearly written, leveled Canadian current events articles
✓ Literacy-based lesson plans
✓ Engaging, original illustrations
✓ Comics
✓ Map assignments
Product details: 8 issues. 36 pages. Available in English and in French for grades 3 and up.

What in the World?
PDF/Word 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: 8 issues. 38 pages. Available in English and in French, and in two reading levels, for grades 5 and up.

Currents4Kids.com
News4Youth.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
✓ Extension activities

Building Bridges
PDF/Word 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: 5 issues. 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.
Did you know...

. . . that each issue of The Canadian Reader includes a PDF file (complete document) and a Word file (articles and questions only)? Students can complete assignments directly in a 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 Word file that is password protected:

1) Select the data you wish to Copy and then Paste it into any word processing program. Use Select All to copy the entire document.

2) Import the entire Word file into LibreOffice (or another similar program) and then save as a new file.

3) To remove the password from a protected Word file, use Save As to make a new copy of the file. You can then change the Security settings and remove the password.

Google Docs and LibreOffice

- You can easily upload the Word file to Google Docs and 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. See: www.libreoffice.org
Wish your students knew more about their country? Help them to learn who’s who, what’s where, and what’s going on in Canada with a subscription to **The Canadian Reader**.

This classroom-ready resource combines current Canadian events and issues with geography to expand students’ knowledge of their country while enhancing their non-fiction literacy skills.

**SPECIAL OFFER FOR NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Subscribe now for the 2021 - 2022 school year, and get the September and October issues FREE!

These current events are the perfect supplement for any Social Studies program. They are a wonderful jumping point for class discussion. Keep up the good work!

K. Faltin, Erskine, AB

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

---

Explore the news. Enhance literacy. Engage your students! Suitable for Grades 3 and up

---

See next for page samples and ordering details!
YES, sign me up for the 2021 – 2022 school year and send me the September and October issues FREE*
Promo code: 2Free

* Receive 8 issues for the price of 6. Save $52.50 off the regular price of $210. Offer only applies to new subscriptions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>French</th>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Canadian Reader</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Grades 3 and up</td>
<td>$157.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What in the World? Level 1</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Grades 5 and up</td>
<td>$157.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What in the World? Level 2</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Grades 8 and up</td>
<td>$157.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Weekly (Sept. – June 38 issues)</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currents4Kids</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Grades 3 and up</td>
<td>$157.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News4Youth</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Grades 7 and up</td>
<td>$157.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subtotal

ON add 13% HST  NB, NL, NS & PEI add 15% HST

HST

All others add 5% GST

GST

Total

Deliver to (please print clearly)

Name

School

Address

City Province/Territory Postal Code

Email

* Email required for password notification

Billing Options

☐ Bill school ☐ Purchase Order

Please charge to: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA

Card Number

Cardholder Name Expiry Date (MM/YY)

Visit www.lesplan.com to download FREE SAMPLES of all our publications!