

March 2015 Learning Activities

ANSWER KEY

I. A quick look at the contents--find the answers.

- 1. Cesar Chavez DAY CELEBRATIONS are held in many places in the U.S. (p. 1)
- 2. The National Park Service will celebrate its 100th birthday in 2016. (p. 1)
- 3. President Obama announced the creation of THREE new National Monuments across the country. (p. 1)
- 4. The cherry trees originated as a gift of friendship from the people of JAPAN. (p. 1)
- 5. One of the most popular board games was and still is MONOPOLY. (p. 2)
- 6. The names of the Obamas' pet dogs are BO and SUNNY. (p. 3)
- 7. To celebrate St. Patrick's Day, people like to wear the color GREEN. (p. 5)
- 8. How many women were sworn in as members of the 114th Congress in January? 104 (p. 5)
- 9. "March Madness" refers to a NATIONAL COLLEGE basketball tournament of the NCAA. (p. 7)
- 10. Two famous boxers will fight on May 2 in LAS VEGAS. NEVADA (p. 7)

II. Vocabulary guiz: Match the definitions to the phrases on the left.

- __b_ 1. Students learn best when they **tap into** what they already know. a. test or audition
- __c_ 2. J.B. **comes up with** an idea. b. use
- __a_ 3. The boys are nervous and the **try-out** is a disaster. c. thinks of

III. More careful reading--find these answers

A. From "Fourth graders invited to visit National Parks" (pages 1 and 2)

- 1. The program will provide all fourth graders and their families with FREE ADMISSION to the parks.
- 2. The parks provide opportunities to build critical skills through HANDS-ON activities.

B. From "Learning quickly with Easy English Times" (page 2)

- 1. Students in B.J. Kowal's English Learners class first talk about what they see in the PICTURES.
- 2. The students also write paragraphs about the THEMES for the next month's student writing pieces.

C. From "What is 'March Madness'? Basketball words" (page 7)

- 1. A benchwarmer is a person who SITS ON THE BENCH for most if not all of a game.
- 2. A 'slam dunk' is a hard shot to miss and can mean something that is easily ACCOMPLISHED.

D. From "Young readers learn by reading to dogs" (page 8)

- 1. Reading to dogs began in 2006 at a LIBRARY in Minnesota.
- 2. After reading to dogs for a year, most of the children raised their reading levels by at least ONE GRADE.

Crossword puzzle answers - Across: 2. bark 6. mischievous 9. therapy 10. lawn 11. compare 12. train 13. suggestions 14. puppies 15. shed

Down: 1. teasing 3. accuracy 4. blessing 5. outnumbered 7. smartphone 8. awareness