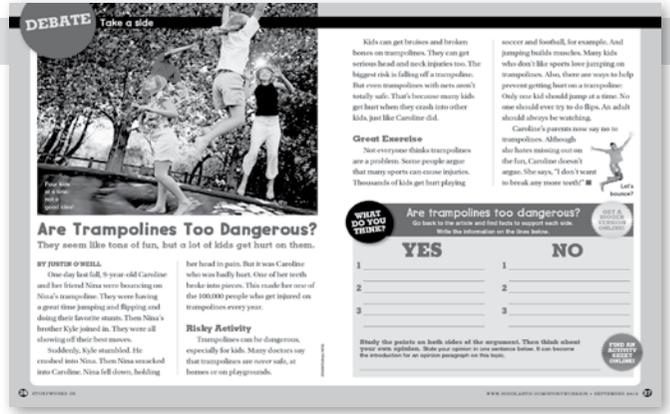


# How to Teach a Storyworks Jr. Debate



Bring our debates to life in your classroom!

The timely and thought-provoking debates you'll find in every issue of *Storyworks Jr.* are great for building a variety of important ELA skills, including speaking and listening, identifying main idea and supporting details, citing text evidence, and opinion writing. Use this lesson plan to teach any of our debates! You'll find additional activities at [scholastic.com/StoryworksJr](http://scholastic.com/StoryworksJr).

## Standards Correlations

This article and lesson support the following standards:

**Common Core anchor standards:** R.1, R.2, R.6, R.8, W.1, SL.1

**TEKS:** 3.14, 3.21

For more standards information, check our website.

## Step-by-Step Lesson Plan

Use this with any *Storyworks Jr.* debate

### 1. Preparing to Read

- Have students preview the text features. **Ask:**
  - What is the topic of the debate? (Prompt students to use the debate title and the heading on the chart as clues.)
  - What are the two opinions people might have about this topic?

### 2. Reading the Debate

- Depending on the reading level of your students, read the debate as a class or break the class into groups.
- Have students read the debate a second time. Prompt them to highlight evidence supporting each side as they come across it. Using two different colors of highlighters would be useful here.

### 3. Discussing

- As a class or in groups, have students discuss:
  - Which opinion has the best evidence to support it?
  - Is one side stronger than the other? Why?
  - What is your opinion? What evidence helped you form your opinion?
- **For more advanced readers:** Do you think the author has an opinion on this issue? What is your evidence?

### 4. Writing

- Have students complete the chart in the magazine or on our full-page printable chart.
- Guide students to write an essay on the debate topic, using the chart they filled out.