Dear Educator:

Introduce your students to *The World Almanac for Kids 2014* and give them hands-on practice in locating and using information. Help them find facts quickly and become capable independent researchers using real-world information in a reference book. To get you started, enclosed you will find eight activity pages relating to a range of curriculum and content areas for grades 3 to 8.

Using *The World Almanac for Kids 2014* Can Improve Fact-Finding Skills. Students will:

- Know how to use a table of contents and an index quickly and efficiently
- Understand how to use alphabetical order
- Be familiar with the contents of *The World Almanac for Kids* and how it can help them answer questions and do homework
- Understand the different text and graphic formats in which information is presented
- Recognize what types of information can and cannot be found in an almanac

The Almanac as a Teaching Resource

Almanacs are a vital part of the reference section of almost every school library. They can also be a vital part of every classroom, by adding depth, breadth, and an element of realism to the learning environment. An almanac is a unique reference work because of the vast amount of useful and current information contained within its pages that is not available in any other single-volume reference source.

Use *The World Almanac for Kids 2014* to:

- Introduce and enliven student discussions with engaging facts
- Explore concepts through examination and analysis of real-life data
- Update and expand on information in classroom texts or library resources
- Build upon students’ fascination with unusual trivia and enlightening statistics

What Subjects Can I Teach with *The World Almanac for Kids 2014*?

- A science teacher looks up fast facts about inventions, natural disasters, and the latest advances in renewable energy.
- A mathematics teacher finds weight and measures, temperature conversions, and other number facts in the almanac.
- A social studies teacher goes to Nations, States, Presidents, or Population to make a point.
- A language arts teacher finds recommended books, spelling, grammar, and “Did You Know?” features inside.
- Librarians use almanacs to teach basic research skills and to help students find writing topics for research papers.
- We all use maps, enjoy museums of all kinds, and celebrate birthdays and holidays . . . all topics found in *The World Almanac for Kids 2014*!

Use the enclosed activity sheets to help students develop a lifetime of skills in finding and using facts and information, quickly and independently.
PAGE 1 Facts Take Shape, part 1
1. United States and China
2. Turkey
3. nitrogen (78%)
4. false (silicon 28%, aluminum 8%)
5. oxygen (47%)
6. Indonesia
7. Monaco
8. 1987

PAGE 2 Facts Take Shape, part 2
1. table
2. pie chart
3. bar graph
4. table
5. list
6. line graph
Graph should match Where Does U.S. Energy Come From? on page 72.

PAGE 3 Going Global, part 1
1. Kuala Lumpur, 29,628,392
2. Kiribati, Pacific Islands
3. Canada, 34,568,211
4. Colombia, Bogotá
5. Europe, 38,383,809
6. Lusaka, Africa
7. b
8. b
9. Mexico is more crowded than Australia, Kazakhstan, or Saudi Arabia.

PAGE 4 Going Global, part 2
1. (236) Spain
2. (183) Japan
3. (247) China
4. ( 50) United Arab Emirates
5. ( 30) Russia
6. ( 36) Australia
7. ( 67) Chile
8. (112) Germany
9. ( 52) Thailand
10. ( 72) Russia
   Answers will vary for country profiles

PAGE 5 State Stats, part 1
Answers will vary

PAGE 6 State Stats, part 2
Riddle: Montana
1. (298) Maryland MD
2. (293) Colorado CO
3. (303) North Dakota ND
4. (306) Texas TX
5. (292) Alabama AL
6. (296) Indiana IN
7. (297) Louisiana LA

Riddle: Maine
8. (298) Massachusetts MA
9. (292) Alaska AK
10. (296) Iowa IA
11. (301) Nevada NV
12. (294) Delaware DE

PAGE 7 Animal Facts
1. (page 28)
   a. hyenas–cackle
   b. owls–parliament
   c. bears–sleuth
   d. ravens–unkindness
   e. giraffes–tower
   f. leopards–leap

2. (page 24)
   a. spiders–arthropods–invertebrates
   b. seals–mammals–vertebrates
   c. clams–mollusks–invertebrates
   d. grasshoppers–insects–invertebrates
   e. alligators–reptiles–vertebrates
   f. turkeys–birds–vertebrates


PAGE 8 SPORTS FUN
1. (220) H
2. (231) U
3. (223) S
4. (226) K
5. (233) I
6. (234) E
7. (225) S

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