



# NEWS

WEEKLY READER EDITION 3 TEACHER'S GUIDE



## TEACHING THE COVER STORY

### Katrina: A Year Later

**WR News visits New Orleans to find out how kids spent their summer.**

New Name  
New Look  
New Features  
New WR!

#### Before You Read

Ask: What do you know about Hurricane Katrina? How might kids have spent the summer in New Orleans?

#### Vocabulary

**hurricane:** a strong, spinning storm that forms over oceans  
**task:** a job

#### Background

- Most hurricanes happen in August, September, and October, when oceans are warmest. Very warm, humid air above oceans drives tropical storms and hurricanes.
- Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast on August 29, 2005 and slammed into the coastlines of Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana.
- After Katrina passed, most of New Orleans was flooded because the levees collapsed.
- With relief and recovery costs nearing \$100 billion, Hurricane Katrina is the costliest natural disaster in U.S. history.
- The federal government has invested \$10 billion in a program that will provide money for Louisiana residents to rebuild or sell their storm-damaged houses.
- Students ages 10 to 17 in a summer program called Rethink (Kids Rethinking New Orleans

Schools) held a news conference in July. The program gives students a voice in rebuilding the New Orleans public school system.

#### Think Critically

Ask: Why is it important to feel safe? What other natural disasters can affect people?

#### Extend the Lesson

At the New Orleans summer program, students expressed their thoughts and feelings with journal writing. Have each student start a journal to express his or her thoughts and feelings about *WR News* stories your class reads this year.

#### Web Resources

- For more about hurricanes, visit [www.fema.gov/kids/hurr.htm](http://www.fema.gov/kids/hurr.htm).
- The Gulf Coast WalkAbout program was developed and operated by the National Youth Leadership Council (NYLC). Find out more about the NYLC at [www.nylc.org](http://www.nylc.org).

### National Standards

#### SOCIAL STUDIES (NCSS)

- Cover Story: Katrina: A Year Later**
- People, places, and environments
  - Civic ideals and practices

#### Page 2: Freedom Tower Rising

- Time, continuity, and change

#### SCIENCE (NSES)

- Page 2: Hope for Giant Pandas**
- Organisms and their environments

#### LANGUAGE ARTS (NCTE/IRA)

- Page 4: Word Hound: Use Alphabetical Order**
- Apply knowledge of language structure.

### Teacher's Guide Skill Pages

#### READ A MAP

- Page 3: Where Do Giant Pandas Live?**

#### USE ALPHABETICAL ORDER

- Page 4: Words to Guide You**

### Editor's Note



In each issue, you'll find a story designed for struggling readers. In this issue, the story is "Hope for Giant Pandas."

| Issue Dates 2006-2007                    |       |       |       |       |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 9/8                                      | 9/15  | 9/22  | 9/29  | 10/6  |
| 10/13                                    | 10/20 | 10/27 | 11/3  | 11/10 |
| 11/17                                    | 12/1  | 12/8  | 12/15 | 1/5   |
| 1/12                                     | 1/26  | 2/9   | 2/23  | 3/2   |
| 3/16                                     | 4/6   | 4/20  | 4/27  | 5/4   |
| Next Issue: Are manatees safe from harm? |       |       |       |       |

# Freedom Tower Rising

Five years after 9/11, New York City rebuilds.

## Before You Read

Ask: What does freedom mean to you? What do you know about Sept. 11, 2001?

## Vocabulary

**memorial:** something that honors a person or an event

## Background

- The Freedom Tower will be topped with a lighted spire, or cone. The spire is meant to look like the Statue of Liberty's torch.
- The base of the tower will be covered with prisms, glass that separates sunlight into rainbow-like bands of color.

- Two low walls will mark the heights of the original towers at 1,362 feet and 1,368 feet.

## Think Critically

Ask students: How can buildings honor a historical event?

## Extend the Lesson

Have students write a poem about what freedom means to them.

## Web Resource

For more about the rebuilding of the Freedom Tower, visit [www.projectrebirth.org](http://www.projectrebirth.org).

# Hope for Giant Pandas

A new study shows that almost twice as many giant pandas may live in China as was once thought.

## Before You Read

Ask: What do you know about giant pandas? Why might there be hope for giant pandas?

## Vocabulary

**habitat:** a place in nature where an animal lives

## Background

- The diet of giant pandas consists mainly of bamboo. Each animal consumes about 80 pounds of this plant's stems and leaves a day.
- The giant pandas' survival is linked to eating bamboo. If bamboo disappears in an area, giant pandas there risk starvation.
- Giant pandas can live about 20 years in the wild.
- There are more than 40 nature reserves in China that protect the giant pandas' habitat.

## Think Critically

Ask: Why is it important for scientists to keep track of the number of giant pandas?

## Extend the Lesson

Have students create a poster about giant pandas (size, habitat, diet, and so on).

## Web Resource

For more about giant pandas, go to [www.worldwildlife.org/pandas](http://www.worldwildlife.org/pandas).

## What's Your Story?

Inspire students with *What's Your Story?*, our free supplemental literacy program. It is being sent to subscribers of 10 or more copies of Edition 3. The program includes a world map. For downloadable graphic organizers, writing contests, and more, visit [www.weeklyreader.com/wys](http://www.weeklyreader.com/wys).



## Answer Key

### STUDENT EDITION

#### Hurricane States

1. Florida, 2. Louisiana, 3. 18, 4. 77, 5. 51

#### Know the News

1. C (literal comprehension)
2. A (vocabulary)
3. A (main idea)
4. B (inferential comprehension)
5. B (literal comprehension)

### TEACHER'S GUIDE

#### Where Do Giant Pandas Live? (page 3)

1. A, 2. C, 3. B, 4. A, 5. B

#### Words to Guide You (page 4)

1. China
2. home, honor
3. panda, park
4. state
5. took
6. whole

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**Any questions or comments concerning editorial content should be addressed to:**

*WR News* Edition 3, 200 First Stamford Place, P.O. Box 120023, Stamford, CT 06912-0023.

Our editorial e-mail address is [ed3@weeklyreader.com](mailto:ed3@weeklyreader.com).

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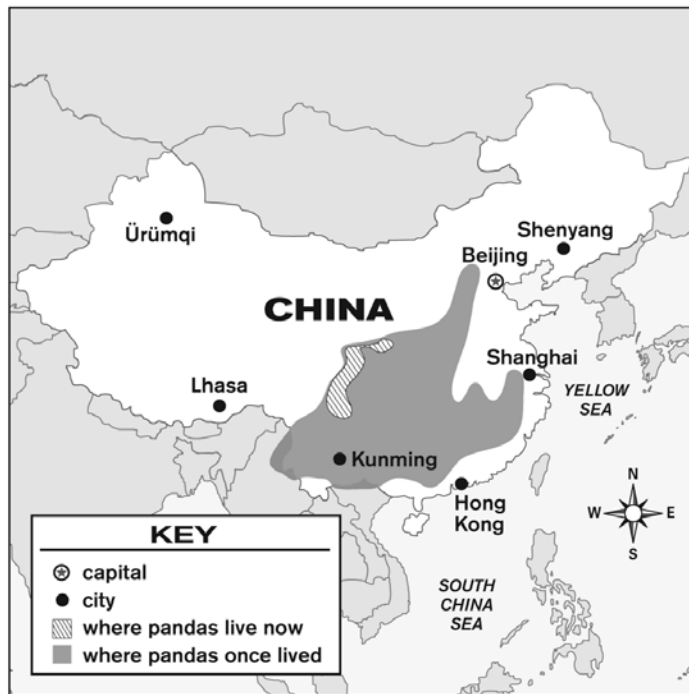
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Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Where Do Giant Pandas Live?

Giant pandas once lived in most of southern China. Now their habitat is much smaller. Study the map. Then choose the best answer to complete each blank.



1. Pandas live \_\_\_\_\_ of the South China Sea.  
(A) north                      (B) south                      (C) east
2. Shanghai is \_\_\_\_\_ of the pandas' habitat.  
(A) south                      (B) west                      (C) east
3. The capital of China is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) Hong Kong              (B) Beijing                      (C) Shenyang
4. Water borders the \_\_\_\_\_ coast of China.  
(A) east                      (B) west                      (C) north
5. Pandas once lived in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) Lhasa                      (B) Kunming                      (C) Hong Kong

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Words to Guide You

Words are listed in a dictionary in alphabetical order. Along the top of each dictionary page are two guide words. The guide words tell you the first and last words on that page. Look at the guide words below. Circle the words in each box that belong between the page's guide words. (Hint: Some boxes have more than one correct answer.)



**1. chill – chip**

celebrate  
chance  
China  
cut

**4. star – statue**

storm  
state  
swim  
school

**2. hole – hood**

habitat  
home  
honor  
hope

**5. toe – toot**

tall  
tower  
took  
trade

**3. pale – peel**

panda  
park  
people  
plant

**6. white – wild**

water  
work  
whole  
wood