

ARTICLE OF THE WEEK

WHAT

- Adapted from Kelly Gallagher's *Readicide*.

WHY

- Serious **lack of students' reading depth**. "Yeas, they can recognize foreshadowing in *Lord of the Flies*, but they have little understanding of what is going on in the world outside of their high school."
 - **Less than one-third** of 13-year-olds are daily readers.
 - On average, Americans ages 15 to 24 spend almost 2 hours a day watching television, and only **seven minutes** of their leisure time on reading.
 - A new freshman could potentially leave here having read **140 articles** in addition to our standard curriculum.
- Excellent way to **introduce more nonfiction texts**, something that is greatly emphasized in the new Common Core reading standards.
- "We, the teachers, are the best readers and writers in our classroom, and as such, each of us should be a 'mentor,' a 'mediator,' and a 'model.'"

HOW

- Use real-world writings from news stories, essays, editorials, blogs, and speeches from newspapers, magazines, and websites.
- "Sometimes the articles are related to the unit we are currently studying and sometimes they are completely unrelated, but all the articles have one purpose—to broaden my students' knowledge of the world."
- Distributed on Monday, collected every Friday.