Letter to Parents

Dear Parents,

This Plus Pack provides your children with fun activities and lessons that reinforce the concepts discussed in this month's *Tuttle Times magazine*! We want to empower you, as the primary educator of your children, to confidently guide your children in discussing these principles and applying them to their life.

We don't want each issue just to be read and put in a pile. We hope this Plus Pack extends the value of the magazine's content and leads to meaningful conversations as a family as well as with others in public discourse.

—The Tuttle Twins team

We would love for you and your child to give feedback about this month's issue. Find the surveys on the **Resources page!**

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Article Overviews and Conversation Starters

This month, your kids will be reading several articles. Below you'll find summaries of each one along with suggested conversation starters. These discussions will help reinforce key concepts while also giving you, the parent, an opportunity to share your experiences and perspectives on the topic.



The Faker and the Flag

At SummerFest, the Tuttle twins are downcast after losing a heated game of Capture the Flag. Things took a turn when a boy named Reuben, dressed in their team's yellow jersey, offered to lead them straight to the red team's hidden flag. Trusting him, they followed his winding path through the park and snatched the flag—only to find they had helped the other team win! As they shared the story with Jared from the Edge of Veg food truck, he showed them how similar tricks are used in real life—especially in politics—where people use misleading labels to win trust and power.

The story teaches that appearances and labels can be deceiving, and the only way to see through them is to think for yourself and stay alert.

Conversation Starters

• The twins felt embarrassed after being fooled. How should we react when we realize we've been tricked or made a mistake? What's the right way to learn from it?

• If thinking for ourselves is so important, what are some ways we can practice that every day—in school, with friends, or even when we're hearing about current news stories?

Warning: Labels!

Political labels are meant to signal what someone believes—but they don't always tell the whole truth. This article breaks down the meanings behind common labels, showing that some labels have changed over time while others are often misused. Some labels are even used as insults or disguises to mislead others about someone's true goals.

The article reminds us that knowing the difference helps us think for ourselves and avoid being tricked by fancy words or team colors.



Conversation Starters

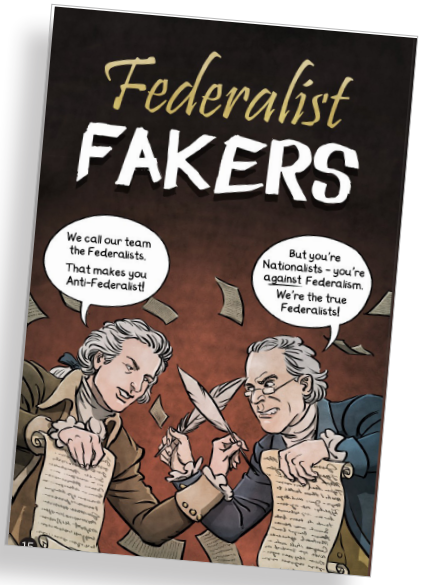
• If labels can be misleading, how can we figure out what a person or politician really believes or stands for?

• Which political label from the article do you think sounds the most interesting or confusing—and why?

Federalist Fakers

When the U.S. was new, each state acted like its own small country, working together in a loose federation. But people like Alexander Hamilton wanted a strong national government, so they wrote the Constitution—and called themselves "Federalists" to gain support, even though their plan would end the federation. Opponents like Jefferson and Patrick Henry were labeled Anti-Federalists, even though they supported the original system.

The Constitution was eventually accepted with the addition of the Bill of Rights, which protected states from the national government's new power.



Conversation Starters

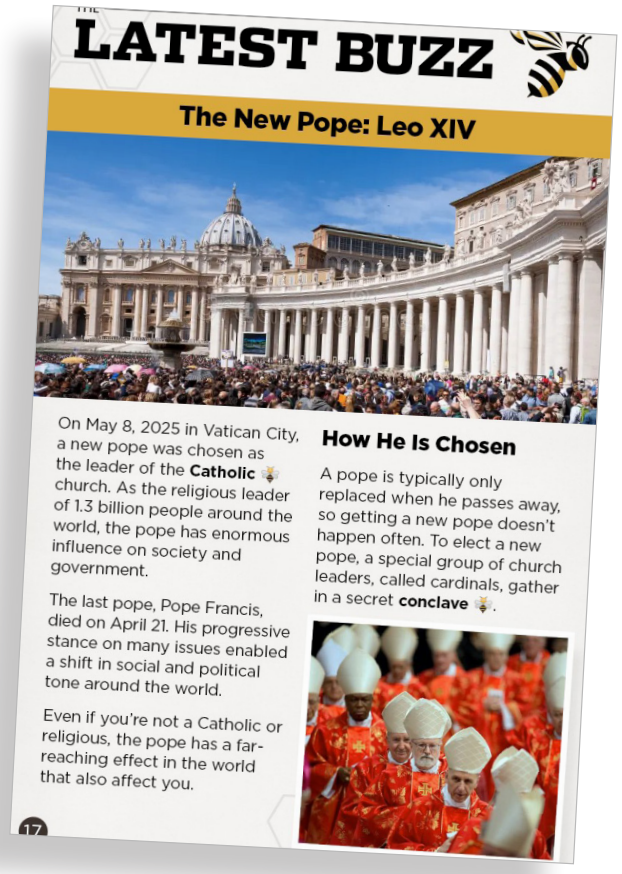
• Why might someone change the name of their political group instead of changing their beliefs?

• Why do you think Hamilton and Madison didn't want to be called "Nationalists"? What does that tell us about the power of labels?

Latest Buzz: New Pope: Leo XIV

On May 8, 2025, the Catholic Church chose a new pope—Pope Leo XIV, formerly Cardinal Robert Prevost. He is the first American pope in history, born in Chicago and known for his missionary work in Peru. Chosen by a vote among cardinals in a special meeting called a conclave, his election was marked by white smoke rising from the Vatican chapel. He takes over after the death of Pope Francis, whose progressive views influenced global politics and culture.

Even for non-Catholics, the pope's leadership impacts society and government around the world.



LATEST BUZZ

The New Pope: Leo XIV

On May 8, 2025 in Vatican City, a new pope was chosen as the leader of the **Catholic** church. As the religious leader of 1.3 billion people around the world, the pope has enormous influence on society and government.

The last pope, Pope Francis, died on April 21. His progressive stance on many issues enabled a shift in social and political tone around the world.

Even if you're not a Catholic or religious, the pope has a far-reaching effect in the world that also affect you.

How He Is Chosen

A pope is typically only replaced when he passes away, so getting a new pope doesn't happen often. To elect a new pope, a special group of church leaders, called cardinals, gather in a secret **conclave**.

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Conversation Starters

• Why do you think the pope's leadership matters even to people who aren't Catholic or religious?

• What kind of qualities do you think are most important in a spiritual or global leader?

Share your conversation experiences with the world!

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