

## Appendix 2

### Expansion Activities

#### Unit 1: Professional Cycling (pages 1–21)

##### Cycling

1. If possible, find a video or check your local listings for replays of the Tour de France on the TLC channel on cable. Watch it as a class if possible.
2. If possible, ask students to attend a bicycle road race. Most local communities have a bike race or cycling event during the course of the year.
3. Ask students to investigate cyclists from their home countries and track their progress in races during the course of the term.

##### Cancer Survival

1. Ask students to learn more about different types of cancer and their survival rates.

#### Unit 2: Talking to the Animals (pages 22–43)

##### Jane Goodall

1. Ask students to find out more about Jane Goodall and her work with chimpanzees or to research other similar animal researchers.
2. If possible, get a video of the PBS show *Nature* that features Jane Goodall. It's called "Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees" and is available at [www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/goodall/](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/goodall/). Watch it as a class.

##### Animal Whisperers

1. Ask students to watch the movie *The Horse Whisperer* starring Scarlett Johansson and Robert Redford or watch it as a class. Notice the things Robert Redford's character does to communicate with the damaged horse.
2. Cesar Millan is currently called the Dog Whisperer. He became popular after working with the dogs of celebrities like Will Smith and Oprah Winfrey. Learn more about Millan to find out the kinds of behavioral problems he seems to be able to fix in dogs.

3. Ask students to write about the connections with animals and pets that they have had. Do they have evidence that their pets communicate with them?

### **Unit 3: Living in Hiding (pages 44–65)**

#### **Anne Frank**

1. In 2006, a movie called *Freedom Writers* was released; it's now available on DVD. The movie was based on a book called *The Freedom Writers Diary*, which told how one teacher introduced her students to books she thought they, as teenagers living in a drug- and gang-ridden zone, could appreciate. One of the first books the students read was *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Watch *Freedom Writers* to discover the impact this book, and meeting Mies Giep, has on them.
2. In *The Freedom Writers Diary*, the students read a more recent diary of a young girl in Yugoslavia who has an experience not all that different from Anne Frank's. Ask students to read *Zlata's Diary: A Child's Life in Wartime Sarajevo* by Zlata Filipovic, and note similarities and differences between her account and Anne Frank's account.
3. Ask students if they know about or to investigate other diaries written by teenagers or young adults living in a war zone or living with difficult political strife.

### **Unit 4: Saving Our Water (pages 66–87)**

#### **Linda Greenlaw**

1. Linda Greenlaw was a character in the movie *A Perfect Storm*. Watch the movie to learn what else you can about her and about fishermen in Maine.
2. Linda Greenlaw also wrote *The Lobster Chronicles* about her life off the coast of Maine as a fisherwoman.

#### **Global Warming**

1. As a result of the movie *An Inconvenient Truth*, global warming has become a topic more people are familiar with. Ask students to investigate one of these issues in greater detail to look at how global warming is affecting it:
  - Polar bears and the polar ice cap
  - Hurricane Katrina and warmer ocean waters

2. Ask students to investigate three ways they can save energy in their lives or changes they can make to help cut down on ozone gases.

## **Unit 5: Exploring Space (pages 88–111)**

### **Going to the Moon**

1. HBO broadcast a series now available on DVD called *From the Earth to the Moon*. This series features dramatizations of some of the early space challenges and successes and also reveals much about the early NASA program. Watch some episodes as a class.
2. The movie *Apollo 13* starring Tom Hanks is a fascinating and harrowing in-depth look at the spacecraft that nearly was trapped in space.
3. The U.S. space shuttle program also has had successes and failures. Ask students to investigate some of these successes and failures.
4. The space station MIR is a joint operation between the United States and Russia. What is it like to live on this space station?

## **Unit 6: Seabiscuit and the Great Depression (pages 112–131)**

### **Seabiscuit**

1. The movie *Seabiscuit* tells the story of the horse, his trainer, his jockey, and his owner—all of whom endured tough times before achieving success through the horse. Watch the movie.
2. In the United States, three horseraces—the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness, and the Belmont Stakes—are called the Triple Crown. No horse has won all three races since 1978 when Secretariat, often considered the greatest racehorse of all time, won it. Several horses have won two of the three races; ask students to research horses that have accomplished this. Which horses have won each of these races most recently?

### **The Great Depression**

1. There have been several movies that show how difficult the Great Depression was on Americans. One recent movie is *Cinderella Man* starring Russell Crowe. This movie also depicts the power of sports figures during this era. Compare James Braddock of *Cinderella Man* with Seabiscuit and their appeal during this tough time.

2. One of the ways President Franklin D. Roosevelt helped pull the country out of the Great Depression was by giving people work through the government-sponsored Works Progress Administration (WPA). These projects were responsible for many of the parks, dams, and highways in the country. Investigate WPA programs done in your state.