



## **Questions for Classroom Discussion**

### **The Time Capsule**

- **What is the purpose of a time capsule?**

- ⇒ Consider the standard definition, that a time capsule is a container with items from the present to be opened at some point in the future (it is usually buried or stored until that date)
- ⇒ Consider how a time capsule can be important, giving the future a true glimpse of the past that might be lost in textbooks and other history books
- ⇒ Consider how a time capsule can be used to capture specific moments—birthdays, weddings, first days of school—which will fondly be remembered in the future

- **What decisions must be made prior to creating a time capsule?**

- ⇒ Consider the main purpose of the time capsule, which can vary... is it intended for yourself to remember a special day, or for a certain group to remember this time in your life, or for future generations that have yet to be born
- ⇒ Consider when you want the time-capsule recovered... 5 years, 15 years, 50 years, 500 years, and so on. This will determine what you place in the time capsule, what material it is used, and where you store it
- ⇒ Consider that there are many types of “time capsules”... some can feature items from a certain time that are displayed to be constantly enjoyed, while others are meant to be hidden until a future date

- **What items would you include in a time capsule?**

- ⇒ Consider that the items inside the time capsule should center around its main purpose... is it intended for yourself to remember a special day, or for a certain group to remember this time in your life, or for future generations that have yet to be born
- ⇒ Consider when the time capsule will be opened... and by whom. What do you think they will be interested in seeing about this current moment in time?
- ⇒ Consider items that are important to you right now (such as a small toy or piece of clothing), as well as those that give a good snapshot of the world at this moment (such as a newspaper or magazine)
- ⇒ Consider items that are likely to change, or show how much the world has changed (such as a grocery receipt)
- ⇒ Consider writing a note or letter to your future self or to future friends and family... or do this with video and audio recordings