

Dear Teacher,

You and your students have the unique opportunity to preview, for FREE, *Seven Wonders Book 1: The Colossus Rises*—part of a new, young-reader classic series. Each of the seven books from award-winning author Peter Lerangis and renowned children's publisher HarperCollins tells the story of 12-year-old Jack McKinley, an ordinary kid with an extraordinary problem—he has only months to live unless he, and a team of three others, can find seven magic orbs hidden in each of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

Seven Wonders Book 1: The Colossus Rises, will be in bookstores on February 5. But you can offer your students advance reader's editions of this book now. To receive a FREE set of 20 books, just return the enclosed reply card or place your order online at www.ymiclassroom.com/sevenwonders. Supplies are limited, so please place your order today. Offer expires January 4, 2013.

Filled with action and adventure, *Seven Wonders Book 1: The Colossus Rises* is sure to engage even the most reluctant readers in grades 4–6 with tales of adventure, mystery, and teamwork. The activities in this teaching kit were developed by award-winning curriculum specialists Young Minds Inspired (YMI) and align with Common Core Standards for Language Arts and History. Your students will be introduced to some of the most fascinating places and objects in the history of mankind—the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World!

We hope that you will share this FREE offer from HarperCollins with other teachers in your school. Although the materials are protected by copyright, you may make as many copies as needed for educational purposes.

Please return the enclosed reply card or go online to www.ymiclassroom.com/sevenwonders to order your FREE set of books (while supplies last). The offer expires on January 4, 2013.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dominic Kinsley,
Editor in Chief

P.S. You and your students can begin enjoying this exciting story even before your free books arrive. Read the prequel—*Seven Wonders Journals #1: The Select*—on the Seven Wonders website at www.sevenwondersbooks.com, available on December 18, 2012.

SEVEN WONDERS THE COLOSSUS RISES

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Peter Lerangis is the author of more than 160 books, which have sold five million copies and been translated into 28 different languages. His books are included in two *New York Times* bestselling series: The 39 Clues (Book 3: *The Sword Thief*, Book 7: *The Viper's Nest*, and Book 11: *Vipers Resting*) and Cahills vs. Vespers (Book 3: *The Dead of Night*). He wrote the popular Spy X and Drama Club series, the two-book adventure *Antarctica*, and the Watchers series (winner of Children's Choice and Quick Pick awards). With Harry Mazer, he co-authored the young adult novel *Somebody, Please Tell Me Who I Am*. His novel *Smiler's Bones*, based on the true story of an Eskimo boy orphaned in New York City at the turn of the 20th century, was selected as a New York Library Best Book for Teens 2006, a Bank Street Best Books of 2006, and a Junior Library Guild pick.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 4–6

- To engage young readers in new reading adventures that will encourage a lifelong love of reading
- To introduce students to the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World

COMMON CORE AND NATIONAL STANDARDS

The activities in this viewer's guide align with Common Core Standards for Language Arts and History. For detailed standards correlation, please visit www.ymiclassroom.com/sevenwonders.

HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM

Review the activities in conjunction with the teacher's resource guide, and **order your set of FREE books** by January 4, 2013. Act now, supplies are limited. To set the stage, have students read the exciting prequel *Seven Wonders Journals #1: The Select* at www.sevenwondersbooks.com, available December 18, 2012. You can photocopy and distribute the three activity sheets as an introduction to the books or as an accompaniment, once your free books arrive.

THE SEVEN WONDERS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD

Each of the seven books in the Seven Wonders series focuses on Jack and his friends' adventures to retrieve the orbs hidden in the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. These Seven Wonders, constructed between 2800 and 2880 BCE and located in the eastern Mediterranean part of the world, were architectural and artistic monuments that the ancient Greeks and Romans considered to be perfect:

- The Great Pyramid of Giza
- The Hanging Gardens of Babylon
- The Statue of Zeus at Olympia
- The Temple of Artemis at Ephesus
- The Mausoleum at Halicarnassus
- The Colossus of Rhodes
- The Lighthouse of Alexandria

For more information on the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, go to www.sevenwondersbooks.com.

ACTIVITY 1 JOIN JACK'S TEAM

Explain to your students that they are among the first kids in the United States reading *Seven Wonders: The Colossus Rises*, the first in a series of seven mysterious, action-packed adventures of a team of kids who must explore each of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

Have your students review the character descriptions on the activity master. What do they think makes these four kids a good team? Next, ask students to think about the skills and abilities that they have already and wish they had to make them a valuable fifth member of the team. Have students write a brief description of these talents in the space provided. Provide time for discussion and sharing.

ACTIVITY 2 TRAVEL TO LOST CIVILIZATIONS

Begin by having your students view this video about the lost island of Atlantis: www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=7409110n. Provide time for students to do the writing exercise and to share what they have written. Next, have students do online research to learn about the Colossus of Rhodes and the Statue of Liberty and complete the matching activity.

Colossus(C)/Liberty(L) Comparison Answer Key:

Construction completed: (C) 280 BCE; (L) 1884. Location: (C) Island of Rhodes in the Aegean Sea; (L) Liberty Island, New York Harbor. "Skin" made of: (C) bronze plates; (L) copper. Why it was built: (C) a victory monument after the people of Rhodes successfully resisted an invasion attempt; (L) a gift from the people of France celebrating more than 100 years of French/American friendship.

To extend the activity, review the Emma Lazarus poem "The New Colossus," inscribed on the Statue of Liberty, as a class and discuss its meaning. For the text of the poem and a discussion of its meaning, go to www.betterlivingthroughbeowulf.com/?p=15225. Explain that the poem compares the Statue of Liberty (The New Colossus) with the original statue. As a take-home activity, have your students create their own poem about the Statue of Liberty.

ACTIVITY 3 DISCOVER THE SEVEN WONDERS

Review with students the list of Seven Wonders on the sheet. Provide time for students to do their research and share their interesting facts.

Answer Key: 1-f, 2-e, 3-a, 4-c, 5-b, 6-g, 7-d.

For the map-making activity: The Seven Wonders of the Ancient World were located in the modern-day countries of Greece, Turkey, Egypt, and Iraq.



is the only company developing free, innovative classroom materials that is owned and directed by award-winning former teachers. Visit our website at www.ymiclassroom.com to send feedback and download more free programs. For questions, contact us toll-free at 1-800-859-8005 or by email at feedback@ymiclassroom.com

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ACTIVITY ONE

JOIN JACK'S TEAM

When you read the nail-biting ***Seven Wonders Book 1: The Colossus Rises***, you'll

meet twelve-year-old Jack

McKinley. He's an ordinary kid with an extraordinary problem—in a few months, he's going to die. The day after Jack collapses, he awakens on a mysterious island, where a secret organization promises to save his life if he can find seven magical objects called "loculi." When combined, the loculi can save his life. On the island, he also meets three young people—Aly Black, Cass Williams, and Marco Ramsay—who

have the same rare condition and who must join Jack in finding the cure. They have a big problem, though—the loculi are relics of a lost civilization that hasn't been seen in thousands of years. And each loculi is hidden in one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

JACK MCKINLEY

His mother died when he was young, and his father is a globe-trotting entrepreneur who's rarely around. Raised by a series of nannies, he has a knack for finding solutions on his own. He can build crazy contraptions that solve problems that to others seem impossible.

Their quest is filled with danger, but each of the kids has special talents and personal characteristics that, when combined, create a pretty amazing team. Read the descriptions in the graphic organizer. How do you think their unique talents will allow them to work together effectively?

ALY BLACK

She's a first-rate hacker who can break into virtually any computer. She's also got a soft heart, and worries about her mother. Part of her just wants to go home.

CASS WILLIAMS

He has a photographic memory and can remember details, directions, faces, and names perfectly. He's also nervous. He's terrified of heights and animals, and he isn't very coordinated.

MARCO RAMSAY

He's a natural athlete who can climb sheer cliffs and swish baskets from half-court. He's the group's protector and is always at the center of the action. He's an unfailing optimist. There's nothing he won't try.

Now, imagine that you are the fifth member of the team. What special skills and abilities would you need that would make the team even stronger? Write your name and a brief description in the final circle.



Did You Know? The Great Pyramid of Giza is the only one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World that still exists today. The Hanging Gardens of Babylon may just be myth; it may never have existed at all!

FOR MORE EXCITEMENT AND FUN—AND TO READ THE PREQUEL TO THE SEVEN WONDERS SERIES—VISIT THE SEVEN WONDERS WEBSITE AT WWW.SEVENWONDERSBOOKS.COM



ACTIVITY TWO

TRAVEL TO LOST CIVILIZATIONS

As *Seven Wonders Book 1: The Colossus Rises* begins, Jack finds himself on the legendary lost island of Atlantis. In real life, the debate about whether Atlantis ever existed has lasted for thousands of years. It dates to the Greek philosopher Plato in 360 BCE. Plato said Atlantis was "an island situated in front of the straits which are by you called the Pillars of Hercules." He also said Atlantis was destroyed by a tsunami and went under the ocean in "one day and one night." Today, the Pillars of Hercules is known as the Straits of Gibraltar, and a team

of researchers think they may have found the ruins of the city of Atlantis buried in mud flats near there.

PART A. To learn about the legend of the lost city, take a look at this CBS News video: www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=7409110n. What do you think might have happened to Atlantis? Did it really sink after a devastating storm, did something else happen, or was it all just a myth? Write your thoughts—both pro and con—on the back of this activity sheet.

PART B. Jack and his team travel to the site of the Colossus of Rhodes, a wonder which is said to be the inspiration for the Statue of Liberty. Use the two websites below to complete the statements and to learn a little bit about how the two statues were alike and how they were different.

Colossus of Rhodes:

www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Colossus_of_Rhodes

Statue of Liberty:

http://statueofliberty.org/Statue_of_Liberty.html

	Colossus of Rhodes	Statue of Liberty
Construction completed		
Location		
"Skin" made of		
Why it was built		
I think the most important similarity between the two statues is:		
I think the most important difference is:		



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Did You Know? The Colossus of Rhodes only stood for 56 years. It was destroyed in an earthquake.

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ACTIVITY THREE

DISCOVER THE SEVEN WONDERS

As you read each book in the **Seven Wonders** series, you'll share in the adventures of Jack and his friends and visit each of the amazing Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. All seven sites are believed to have been chosen by a Greek writer named Antipater of Sidon. They are all located in the eastern Mediterranean part of the world.

Go to www.sevenwondersbooks.com to learn about the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Then match each wonder with the correct description. In the space provided, write one more interesting fact about each one.

1. _____ Colossus of Rhodes

2. _____ Statue of Zeus at Olympia

3. _____ Temple of Artemis at Ephesus

4. _____ Hanging Gardens of Babylon

5. _____ Mausoleum at Halicarnassus

6. _____ Lighthouse of Alexandria

7. _____ Great Pyramid of Giza

- a. Archaeologists discovered these ruins at the bottom of the Cayster River in the 1860s.
- b. This massive tomb was built entirely of white marble.
- c. Most modern scholars don't think this ever existed.
- d. The only wonder that still survives today
- e. It was located at the site of the ancient Olympics.
- f. An enormous sculpture of the sun god Helios
- g. Ships relied on this to navigate in and out of the city's busy harbor.



Using what you learned, create a map on the back of this sheet to show the countries where each of the Seven Wonders would be located today.



Did You Know? The Statue of Zeus at Olympia was located in the Temple of Zeus. The statue was so tall that its head nearly touched the ceiling of the temple. The Mausoleum at Halicarnassus was a tomb built for a king; one of the friezes from the tomb is now in London's British Museum. The Temple of Artemis at Ephesus was actually a series of several altars and temples.

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