

Dear Teacher,

You and your students have the unique opportunity to preview, for **FREE**, *Seven Wonders Book 2: Lost in Babylon*. This is the second title in an exciting new middle grade series. The first book, *The Colossus Rises*, debuted as a *New York Times* bestseller.

This series from award-winning author Peter Lerangis and renowned publisher HarperCollins Children's Books tells the story of thirteen-year-old Jack McKinley, an ordinary kid with an extraordinary problem: he has only months to live unless he and three other kids with the same problem can find seven magical orbs—one hidden in each of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

***Seven Wonders Book 2: Lost in Babylon* will be in bookstores on October 29. 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](http://www.ymiclassroom.com/sevenwonders). Supplies are limited, so please place your order today. Offer expires September 23, 2013.**

With this offer, your students will be introduced to some of the most fascinating places in the history of mankind: the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. *Seven Wonders Book 2: Lost in Babylon* 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 State Standards for Language Arts and National Standards for History/Social Studies.

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 at [www.ymiclassroom.com/sevenwonders](http://www.ymiclassroom.com/sevenwonders) to order your FREE set of books. Supplies are limited, so place your order today. **This offer expires September 23, 2013.**

Sincerely,



Dr. Dominic Kinsley  
Editor in Chief

PS: For more information, excitement, and fun, your students can visit the Seven Wonders website at [www.sevenwondersbooks.com](http://www.sevenwondersbooks.com). There they can read the prequel—*Seven Wonders Journals #1: The Select*—and learn more about the first book, *Seven Wonders Book 1: The Colossus Rises*.

# SEVEN WONDERS LOST IN BABYLON

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Peter Lerangis** is the author of more than 160 books that have sold five million copies and been translated into twenty-eight languages. His books are included in three *New York Times* bestselling series: The 39 Clues, Cahills vs. Vespers, and Seven Wonders. 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). His novel *Smiler's Bones*, based on the true story of an Eskimo boy orphaned in New York City at the turn of the twentieth century, was selected as a New York Public Library Best Book for Teens 2006, a Bank Street Best Books of 2006, and a Junior Library Guild pick.



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OFFER ENDS  
SEPTEMBER 23,  
2013.

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- 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 State Standards for Language Arts and National Standards for History/Social Studies. For detailed standards correlation, please visit [www.ymiclassroom.com/sevenwonders](http://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 no later than September 23, 2013.** Act now, because supplies are limited. If your students have not read *Seven Wonders Book 1: The Colossus Rises*, have them review the material—including activities for *Book 1*—at [www.sevenwondersbooks.com](http://www.sevenwondersbooks.com). They can also read the FREE prequel, *Seven Wonders Journals 1: The Select*.

## ADDITIONAL TEACHING RESOURCES

An entire set of engaging teaching resources for *Seven Wonders Book 1: The Colossus Rises* is also available at [www.ymiclassroom.com](http://www.ymiclassroom.com).

## THE SEVEN WONDERS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD

Each of the seven books in the Seven Wonders series will focus on Jack and his friends' adventures to retrieve the orbs hidden in the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. These Seven Wonders, listed on Activity 2, were constructed between 2880 and 2800 BCE and were located in the eastern Mediterranean part of the world. They were architectural and artistic monuments that the ancient Greeks and Romans considered to be perfect.

## ACTIVITY 1 WHO ARE THE SELECT?

Review with your students the character descriptions of Jack and his friends and the dilemma they face. Have students share thoughts about what each of the kids would do and then use their creative writing skills to incorporate their own talents into a new version of the event.

## ACTIVITY 2 DISCOVER THE SEVEN WONDERS

Review with students the Seven Wonders listed 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 mapmaking activity: The Seven Wonders of the Ancient World were located in the modern day countries of Greece, Turkey, Egypt, and Iraq.

## ACTIVITY 3 CREATE YOUR OWN ARCHIMEDES' SCREW

Divide students into small groups. Each group will need the materials listed on the activity sheet. Before giving the bottles to your students, cut off the bottoms and cut a triangular hole at the neck, near the cap. The hole should be slightly larger than a Cheerio. As they turn the dowel, your students should be able to move some of the Cheerios from the bottom to the top bowl, just as an Archimedes' screw can move water from a lower to a higher level.

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# WHO ARE THE SELECT?

**Seven Wonders Book 2: Lost in Babylon** continues the adventures of thirteen-year-old Jack McKinley, an ordinary kid with an extraordinary problem. In a few months, he's going to die, unless he and his team of three other kids—who have the same rare genetic condition—can obtain the cure by finding seven

magical objects called Loculi that are hidden in the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

In this book, Jack and his friends (known as the Select) are transported through a magical portal back to the ancient city of Babylon. If the Hanging Gardens of Babylon existed, they are believed to have been located about fifty-three miles from present-day Baghdad and destroyed by an earthquake in about 200 BCE.

## PART 1: THE SELECT

### JACK MCKINLEY

Raised by a series of nannies because his mother died and his father is a globe-trotting entrepreneur, Jack has a knack for finding solutions on his own. He can build crazy contraptions to solve problems that seem impossible to others.

### ALY BLACK

A first-rate hacker who can break into virtually any computer and can program almost any system. She's got a soft heart, worries about her mother, and sometimes just wants to go home.

### CASS WILLIAMS

Possesses a photographic memory and can remember details, directions, faces, and names perfectly. He can devise codes and speak backward. He's also nervous, terrified of heights and animals, and isn't very coordinated.

### MARCO RAMSAY

A natural athlete who can climb sheer cliffs and shoot baskets from half-court. An unfailing optimist, there's nothing he won't try and almost nothing he can't do.

Each member of the Select has very special skills and abilities. What do you think are the most important skills/abilities of each one and why?

Jack \_\_\_\_\_

Aly \_\_\_\_\_

Cass \_\_\_\_\_

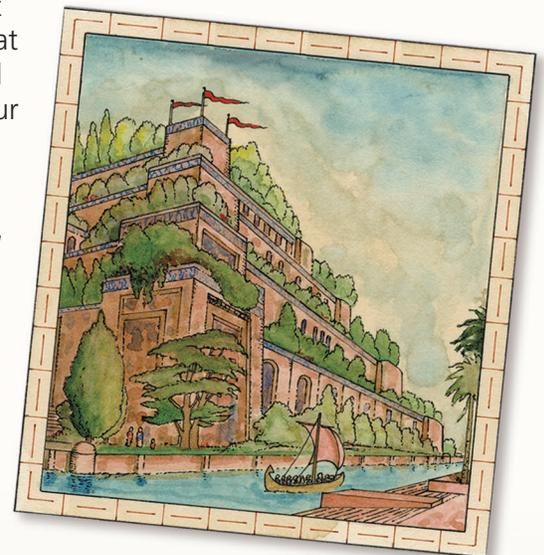
Marco \_\_\_\_\_

## PART 2: THE DILEMMA

After a series of hair-raising adventures, the kids find the hidden Loculus in Babylon. But there's a problem: if they remove it (and save themselves), this ancient city, which now exists in a parallel universe, may well be destroyed.

Based on what you know, what decision would each of the four make? Would each member choose to save his/her life *and* save Babylon, or save him/herself at the expense of Babylon?

On the back of this sheet, write several sentences that describe what you think each team member would do.



## PART 3: BACK TO BABYLON

Now do some research to learn about two of the ancient Babylonian kings—Hammurabi and Nebuchadnezzar—and find out what they are remembered for today. Make notes on a separate sheet of paper and be prepared to share what you learned with your class.

**Did You Know?** Because archaeologists have never discovered any evidence of the Hanging Gardens, many scholars have questioned if they ever existed.



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# ACTIVITY 2

# 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.

Use your school library or go online to research the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. You may even want to stop by [www.sevenwondersbooks.com](http://www.sevenwondersbooks.com) to learn more. Then, using the lists below, match each wonder with the correct description and write one more interesting fact about each one in the space provided.

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 found some of 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. This is the only wonder that still survives today.
- e. It was located at the site of the ancient Olympics.
- f. This was 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 in which all the Seven Wonders would be located today.

**Did You Know?** Although it only lasted for 56 years, The Colossus of Rhodes has been the inspiration for many modern artists, including the French sculptor Auguste Bartholdi, who is best known for creating the Statue of Liberty.



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# CREATE YOUR OWN ARCHIMEDES' SCREW



Archimedes of Syracuse was an ancient Greek mathematician and engineer. He is credited with inventing a device known as the Archimedes' screw that pumps

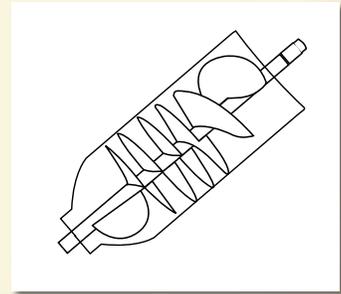
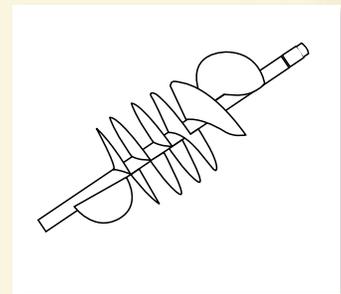
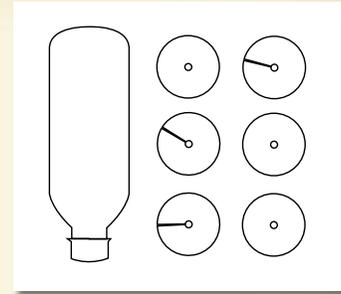
water and may have been used to irrigate the plants in the Hanging Gardens of Babylon. In **Seven Wonders Book 2: Lost in Babylon**, Jack and his friends use an Archimedes' screw to pump water to battle a dangerous fire that could destroy the entire city.

How does the Archimedes' screw work? Let's build a simple version of it. You won't be pumping water, but you'll get the idea! You'll need: 1 clean, dry 2-liter soda bottle; 1 14"-15" wooden dowel; 1 tack; adhesive tape; 2 pieces of 8.5"x14" cardstock; and 2 small bowls or boxes. You also will need a supply of dry Cheerios cereal or other lightweight items of similar size.

To start, use the bottom of your bottle as a template and trace six circles on the cardstock. Cut out the circles and then trim them so that they are about .25" smaller in diameter than the inside of the bottle. Punch a hole in the middle of each circle that is just big enough for your dowel. Then cut a slit in each circle from the edge to the hole. Tape one side of the cut of one circle to the opposite side of the cut on the next circle, and continue until all the circles are taped together, forming a spiral. Thread the spiral onto your dowel, and tape each end to the dowel. Slide this into your bottle, and use your tack to attach the end of the dowel to the bottle cap. Put the cereal into one bowl on a table or desk. Stack several books to a height of about 4"-5", and put the other bowl on top of the books. Put the end of your bottle with the triangular hole in the bowl with the cereal. Lean the bottle so the top hangs over the empty bowl. Slowly turn the dowel so the circles in your spiral turn.

What happened when you turned the dowel? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Now do some research to learn a little about the history of the Archimedes' screw. What were some of its real-life uses? Write a paragraph that describes how it was used on the back of this paper.

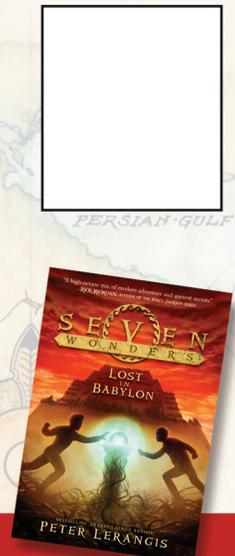


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 New Haven, CT 06510



**Did You Know?** Some historians credit the Hanging Gardens to Sennacherib (704-681 BC), the Assyrian king who made Nineveh his capital and created a massive system of waterworks, including an aqueduct that carried water to the city from hills 40 miles away.

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