



day when the time capsule will be opened. Have students place an X or a ✓ over number 1 and place the bookmark somewhere for safekeeping. For young students, include marking off the days as part of your morning exercises. For older students, have them mark off each day as they arrive each morning or during math lessons, when they can also create equations to find out how many days are left.

### It's About Today

Explain to students that when people choose items to place in time capsules, they try to find items that say something about what is going on in the world at the time. Many of the chosen items also say something about the people who have put them inside the capsule. Urge students to brainstorm the types of items they can put into the classroom time capsule that tells others something about them and that time in history, such as a favorite earring, a current comic strip, or a pin with a character's photo. Distribute the *A Favorite Item Reproducible* and review the criteria for choosing an item for the capsule. Make sure it's something small so there is room for everyone to place an item inside the capsule. Have students take home the *A Favorite Item Reproducible*, give them a few days to find just the right item, and then tell them to write a draft paragraph telling why they chose the item. Once students are happy with the paragraph, give each one a **Mini Storage Bag** and instruct them to use a permanent marker to rewrite the paragraph on the bag, put their name on the bag, and place the special item inside. Lastly, ask each student to read his or her paragraph, share the item, seal and fold the storage bag as small as possible, and put it into the capsule.

### All About Me

Copy the *All About Me Reproducibles*, cut them apart, and file the copies of the *All About Me—End of the Year* portion for later. Explain to students that they can use the time capsule to see how much things change over the course of a school year. Distribute the *All About Me—Beginning of the Year Reproducible* and tell students to fill in the requested information. Either have students share their information with the class or simply collect the reproducibles, clip them together, and place them inside the time capsule.

### Interesting Things Happening Right Now

When the time capsule is almost full and ready to be closed and sealed, challenge students to find articles in the newspaper that feature interesting current events to place in the capsule. Choose a day for students to bring in the articles and use a permanent marker to label a **Mini Storage Bag** with *Interesting Things Happening Right Now*. When the day arrives, write the date at the bottom of the bag, have students share their current events, fold them up, put them inside the bag, seal and fold the bag small enough to fit into the capsule, and place it inside.

### Time Capsule Ceremony Invitations

About two weeks before you plan to seal the capsule, have students brainstorm a good storage place for the capsule. For example, if you plan to store it inside, the top shelf of a closet or inside a cabinet will keep the capsule out of site. If you decide to bury it outside, plan to place the capsule in a sturdy plastic bag and seal it tightly before covering it with dirt. Whether the sealing and storing ceremony is inside or outside, you can invite the principal, vice principal, and students' families to join in the fun. Copy the *Classroom Time Capsule Ceremony Invitation Reproducibles*, cut them apart, store the *Classroom Time Capsule Opening Invitations* and give one *Classroom Time Capsule Ceremony Invitation* to each student. Have students fill in invitations for their families, decorate them with crayons or markers, and take the invitations home. Choose a couple of volunteers to make additional invitations for the principal and vice principal and to deliver the invitations.

### Time Capsule Ceremony Presentations

Prior to the time capsule ceremony, divide students into six groups and assign each group one of the following activities that have been completed to fill the time capsule:

- *My Goal for the Year Card and Steps to My Goal Reproducible*
- *This Is Me! Photo Holders and What Will Be Different About Me? Reproducible*
- *Opening the Time Capsule Bookmarks*
- *A Favorite Item Reproducible and Mini Storage Bags*
- *All About Me—Beginning of the Year Reproducible*
- *Interesting Things Happening Right Now and Mini Storage Bag*

Have each group create a small presentation to tell about the activity the class completed and the items in the capsule. Help each group by giving them any printouts or materials associated with their activity so that they can create samples and share them during the ceremony. Be sure to discuss with students how to make and use note cards to help them with their presentation.

### Time Capsule Sealing and Storing Ceremony

Welcome your guests and compliment your students on their hard work. Then introduce the six groups for their presentations. When students are done, carefully secure the lid on the capsule and remind everyone that most time capsules have a seal of some kind to ensure no one breaks the seal and opens it before the designated date. Announce the date you plan to open the capsule and use a permanent marker to write the opening date on the two sealing stickers. Either place the two stickers so that they stick over the lid and down onto the two sides of the capsule or around the edge of the lid to seal it to the base of the capsule. Store the capsule in the chosen location.

Before you close your family time capsule, fill in the ***When We Fill Our Time Capsule*** sheet, cut out both sheets, paper clip them together, and place them in your time capsule. Fill in the second sheet when you open your capsule and have fun comparing the answers.



## All About Our Family When We Fill Our Time Capsule



Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***Our favorite:***

Dinner to eat together: \_\_\_\_\_

TV show to watch together: \_\_\_\_\_

Movie to watch together: \_\_\_\_\_

Thing to do together: \_\_\_\_\_

Place to go together: \_\_\_\_\_



## All About Our Family When We Open Our Time Capsule



Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***Our favorite:***

Dinner to eat together: \_\_\_\_\_

TV show to watch together: \_\_\_\_\_

Movie to watch together: \_\_\_\_\_

Thing to do together: \_\_\_\_\_

Place to go together: \_\_\_\_\_

Ideas:

Final Choice:

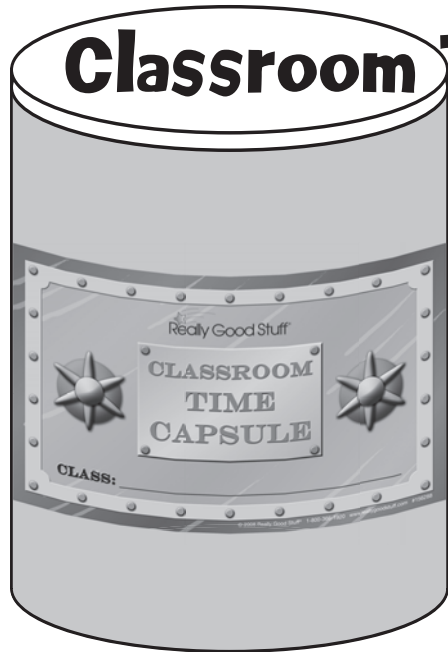
Check off the items we decide to include.

[illegible]

How will we remind ourselves to open  
our time capsule?

## Beginning End

[illegible][illegible][illegible]



You are invited to our:  
**Classroom Time Capsule Ceremony**

When: Day: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Where: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

*Hope to see you there!*

You are invited to our:  
**Classroom Time Capsule Opening**

When: Day: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Where: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

*Hope to see you there!*



### What Will Be Different about Me?

My hair will be \_\_\_\_\_

My clothes will be \_\_\_\_\_

My smile will be \_\_\_\_\_

I will be \_\_\_\_\_

### A Favorite Item

#### It's About Today

Find an item to put in the time capsule.  
Choose something that:

- says something about you at this point in history.
- is small enough to fit in the capsule and does not take up too much space.
- you can do without until the capsule is opened.
- you will be happy to see again at the end of the year.

Write a paragraph explaining why you chose this item.  
Use the back if you need more space.

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## Opening the Time Capsule Bookmark

Mark off the days.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110
111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130
131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140
141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150
151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160
161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170
171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180
181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190
191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200

# Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide

## Classroom Time Capsule Kit

Congratulations on your purchase of the Really Good Stuff® **Classroom Time Capsule Kit**—a great way to have students start the year with activities to get to know each other, then end the year with activities to see how much they have grown.

### This Really Good Stuff® product includes:

- Classroom Time Capsule
- 2 Sealing Stickers
- 32 Time Capsule Photo Holders
- 32 My Goal for the Year Cards
- 30 Mini Storage Bags
- This Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide

### Introducing the Classroom Time Capsule Kit

Prepare the time capsule label by using a permanent marker to write your name on the line next to the word *Class* and then apply the label to the side of the capsule. Ask your students if anyone has ever heard of a time capsule. If so, allow several students to share and then explain to students that a time capsule is a container in which to place current items and information with the intent that it will be discovered in the future. Hold up the *canister* and tell students they are going to create a classroom time capsule that they will open at the end of the year. But first, they need to fill it with important items and information. Plan on several days to complete your activity choices below, fill the capsule, and prepare it for storage.

### Filling the Capsule at the Beginning of the Year Classroom Roster

Copy the *Our Class Roster Reproducible* onto colored paper and cut it out. Have your students sign the paper in their best handwriting and place an X in the box next to the beginning of the year. Roll up the roster like a scroll, tie it with a piece of ribbon or yarn, and drop it into the capsule. Explain to students that during the year some students might move to a new location with their families so it will be interesting to see how many of the original class members are in the class when the time capsule is opened at the end of the year.

### My Goal for the Year Cards

Tell students that you want them to think about a personal goal for the school year. Give each student a **My Goal for the Year Card**. Have students fill in their names on the front of the **My Goal for the Year Card**. Discuss what goals are appropriate and encourage students to think about what they would like to accomplish. Have them write their goals on their cards.

Copy and distribute the *Steps to My Goal Reproducible* and have students think about the steps they need to take to reach their goal and record those steps in the *Steps I plan to take to accomplish my goal* section. Remind students that they will be reviewing their goals at the end of the year so they

need to have some way to measure if they succeeded. For example, if a student writes *I want to be a good speller*, that student could review spelling tests from the year to see if he or she met the goal. Have students fill in the *How I plan to measure my success* section at the bottom of the reproducible. Once students have completed their cards and reproducible, have them share their goals with the class as they place their cards inside the capsule. Have students store their *Steps to My Goal Reproducible* in a folder or notebook where they can refer to it often.

To extend this activity, have each student use the completed goal sentence from the front of the card as a topic sentence and write a paragraph to describe steps he or she plans to take to accomplish the goal. Allow students to fold their paragraphs as small as possible, tape them closed, write their names on the fronts, and drop them into the time capsule.

### This Is Me! Photo Holders

Copy the *What Will Be Different about Me? Reproducible* and cut apart the *What Will Be Different about Me?*, *A Favorite Item*, and *Opening the Time Capsule Bookmark Reproducibles*. Store the *A Favorite Item* and the *Opening the Time Capsule Bookmark* for future activities.

Ask students to bring in a small, recent photograph of themselves or take each student's picture with a camera. For young students, cut their pictures to the appropriate size and slide them into the front side of the **Time Capsule Photo**

**Holders**. Allow older students to cut out their own photos and place them in a photo holder. Have students write the number of the year at the bottom of the holder. Distribute the *What Will Be Different about Me? Reproducible*, tell students to complete and color it. Encourage students to share their photo holders and tell how differently they think they will look by the end of the year. Give each student a paper clip, tell each one to clip his or her reproducible to the photo holder, and put it into the time capsule.



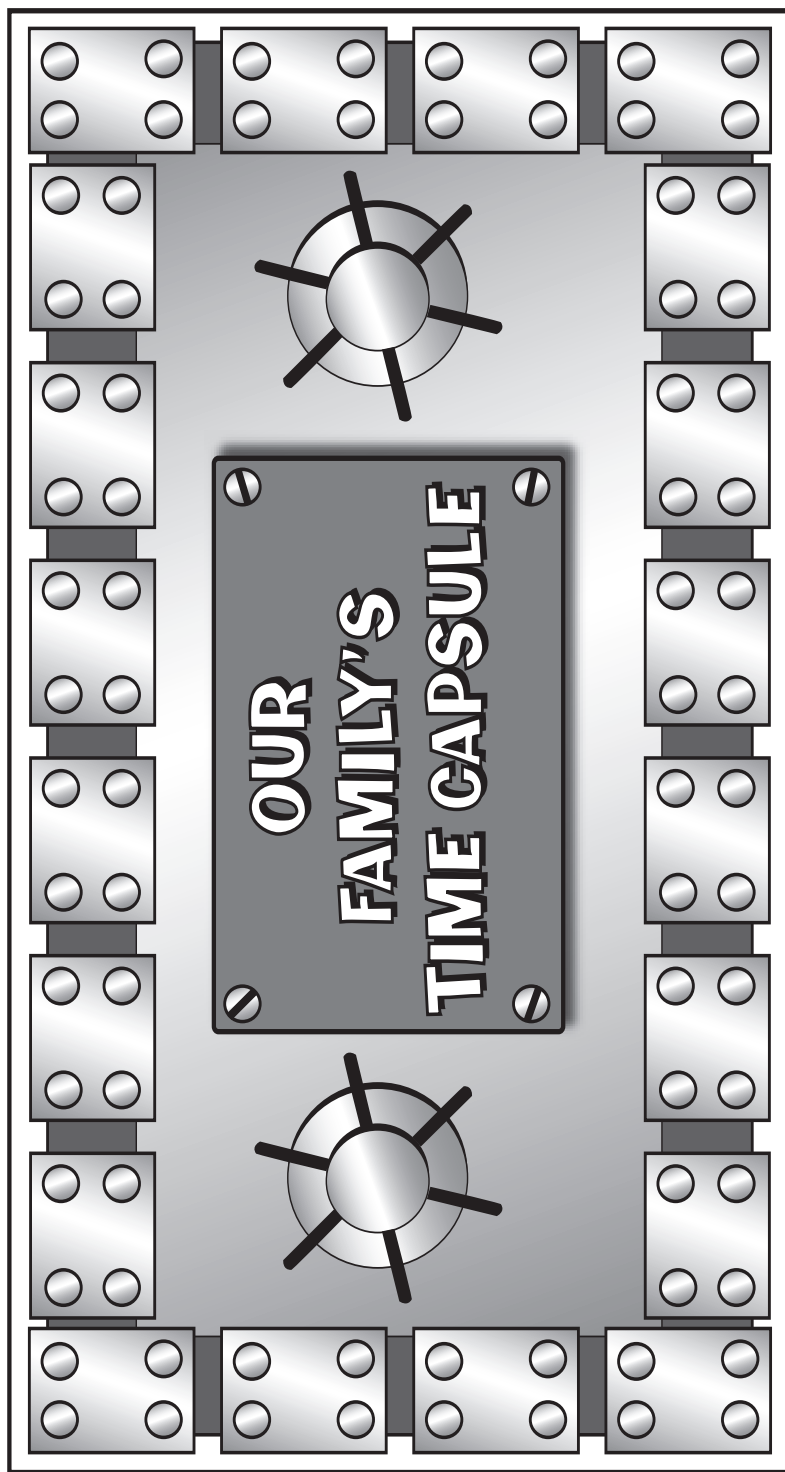
### Opening the Time Capsule Bookmark

Choose a day at the end of the year when you will open the time capsule. Count the number of school days until that day. Distribute the *Opening the Time Capsule Bookmarks* and have each student write his or her name on the back of a bookmark and then turn it over and circle the number of the



Once your family has chosen a container for your time capsule, print these labels on a large sheet of label paper. Cut out and apply the large label to your container. When you are ready to seal your time capsule, cut out the sealing labels and apply them to the top of your container.

Time Capsule Label



Time Capsule Sealing Labels

**Do Not Open Until:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Do Not Open Until:** \_\_\_\_\_



# Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide

## Classroom Time Capsule Kit

### Opening the Time Capsule at the End-of-the-Year

#### Ten-Day Countdown

Prepare students to open the classroom time capsule by having a 10-day countdown. Copy the *Time Capsule Countdown Reproducible* on bright paper and display it where students will be able to see and interact with it easily. Ten days before the designated opening day, choose a student to come up to the countdown poster and use a marker to put an X over the numeral 10. Each day until the big day arrives, ask a student to mark off that day's number.

#### The Time Capsule Opening Ceremony

If you decide to share the time capsule opening with students' families and school staff, distribute the *Classroom Time Capsule Opening Invitations*, have students complete and decorate them, and give them to their families and the appropriate school staff. On the designated opening day, remind students about the things they will find in their time capsule and discuss how things can be different a school year later.

Once all of the guests have arrived, show everyone how the seals have not been broken, proving that all of the contents are the same as when they were placed in the capsule. Take a pair of scissors, which have been decorated in advance, and slice open the seals with great flourish. Ceremoniously remove the contents and hold up the items one at a time for everyone to see. End your ceremony by sharing some of the activities that students will be completing to culminate their time capsule project.

#### Culminating Activities

After your guests have left, set aside an hour or more to work on the time capsule activities. This can be done in one day or over several days according to your schedule. Pass out each of the items and have students complete the activities as described below:

- **Class Roster**

Ask a volunteer to untie the ribbon, unroll the class roster, and call roll. As each student responds, have the volunteer mark an X in the End-of-the-Year box. If you have students who have joined your class during the year, have them use a marker to add their names to the roster. Ask students to recognize the students who have moved and then display the roster.

- **My Goal for the Year Cards**

Give students their goal cards from the beginning of the year and ask them to fill in the backs of the cards. To help them remember the steps they hoped to take, have them take out their *Steps to My Goal Reproducibles* and decide if they met their goals. Give students their folded paragraphs from the time capsule and have them carefully cut or remove the tape. After reading their paragraphs, have students write about accomplishing their goals on the back.

- **This Is Me! Photo Holders**

Hand out the students' photo holders and have them share their photos with friends. Pass out the *What Will Be Different*

*about Me? Reproducibles* and have students read them and talk about how they have changed. Encourage students to bring in a small, recent photograph or take each student's picture. For young students, cut their pictures to the appropriate size and slide them into the back of the photo holders. Allow older students to cut out their own photos and place them in the back of the holders so each beginning-of-the-year photo and each end-of-the-year photo are sitting back-to-back inside the holder. Have students write the number of the year at the bottom of the holder. You can attach lengths of yarn to the photo holders and suspend them from the ceiling for a fun display of how everyone has changed.

- **It's All About Today**

Pass back each student's *Mini Storage Bag* and have each of them discuss with the class how they feel now about what they had put inside the capsule at the beginning of the year.

- **All About Me**

Distribute the *All About Me—End-of-the-Year Reproducibles* and have students fill in their new information. Once they are finished, pass out the original *All About Me Reproducibles* from the time capsule and tell students to compare their answers. Allow students some time to share the differences with the class or their friends.

- **Interesting Things Happening Right Now**

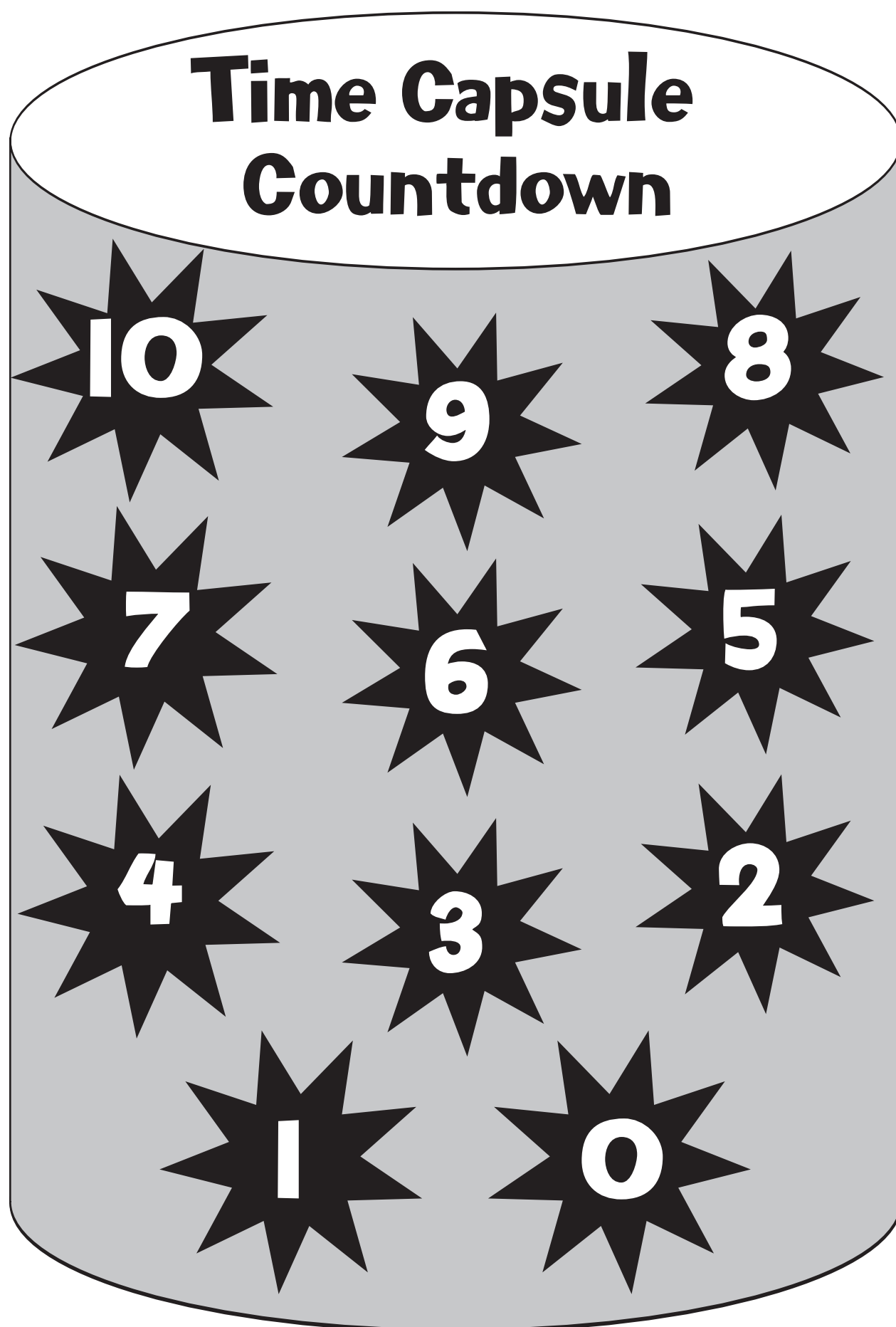
Remove the *Interesting Things Happening Right Now* bag from the time capsule, distribute the articles, and have students read them aloud. Brainstorm how things have changed since the articles were written or events happened.

#### Home-to-School Connection

Culminate your classroom time capsule experience by having students place all of their time capsule activities in their mini storage bags and take them home to share with their families.

Urge your students to create their own Time Capsule project at home. Make copies of the *Time Capsule Planner Reproducible*, the *Time Capsule Labels Reproducible*, and the *All About Our Family Reproducibles* and distribute them to students. Tell them that they can make their own time capsule with their families and the planner will help them get started. They can use the labels to make any container into a time capsule, and fill in the *All About Our Family Reproducible* to put into their capsule. Remind students of the steps the class took to fill, seal, hide (or bury) the Classroom Time Capsule and encourage them to share the same steps with their families to make their own time capsules.

Before storing your time capsule for the year, wipe it clean with a damp sponge, allow it to dry, and replace the lid. Be sure to order a Time Capsule Refill pack (#156288) and be ready for next year!



Copy your goal for the school year from your Time Capsule Goal-for-the-Year Card.

## My Goal for the Year

by

What I would hope to learn this year is:

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Steps I plan to take to accomplish my goal:

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How I plan to measure my success:

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## All About Me—Beginning of the Year

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### My Favorite:

Food: \_\_\_\_\_

TV Show: \_\_\_\_\_

Movie: \_\_\_\_\_

Movie Star: \_\_\_\_\_

Cartoon Character: \_\_\_\_\_

Song: \_\_\_\_\_

Kind of Music: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject in School: \_\_\_\_\_

Book: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Friends: \_\_\_\_\_

Game: \_\_\_\_\_

Sport: \_\_\_\_\_

Thing to Do: \_\_\_\_\_

Place to Be: \_\_\_\_\_

Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastime: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal: \_\_\_\_\_

## All About Me—End of the Year

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### My Favorite:

Food: \_\_\_\_\_

TV Show: \_\_\_\_\_

Movie: \_\_\_\_\_

Movie Star: \_\_\_\_\_

Cartoon Character: \_\_\_\_\_

Song: \_\_\_\_\_

Kind of Music: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject in School: \_\_\_\_\_

Book: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Friends: \_\_\_\_\_

Game: \_\_\_\_\_

Sport: \_\_\_\_\_

Thing to Do: \_\_\_\_\_

Place to Be: \_\_\_\_\_

Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastime: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal: \_\_\_\_\_