Week of 4/21/14

1. General
   1. Distressing about testing -- <http://www.edutopia.org/blog/survive-thrive-during-testing-season-lori-desautels> (If you get the SMartBrief emails, you may have already seen this, but it is definitely worth the minute it takes to read.
   2. Article encouraging us to evaluate our expectations / preconceived ideas of minority students, especially boys -- https://www.teachingchannel.org/blog/2014/04/07/my-brothers-keeper/
   3. If you haven’t used studystack.com, you really ought to check it ought. It is incredibly easy to use if you have lots of terms students need to review. The site is free & automatically generates flashcards and other quick games after you enter the terms & definitions. At our next grade level meeting, I’ll show it to everyone.
2. Science
   1. Ethical questions about endangering astronauts’ lives – <http://newsela.com/articles/nasa-ethics/id/3283/>
3. Social Studies
   1. article discussing Rwandan genocide & similar current issues (ends with nice discussion of self-sufficiency) -- <http://newsela.com/articles/rwanda-genocide/id/3365/>
   2. article about continued fighting in Syria -- <http://newsela.com/articles/syria-aleppo/id/3422/>
4. ELA
   1. Digital “microstories” – nice article with some great resources to use for digital storytelling -- <http://www.middleweb.com/14597/engage-students-digital-microstories/>
5. Encore
   1. Band – really fun article about accordions becoming “hip” <http://newsela.com/articles/accordion-lessons/id/3354/>
6. Just for fun…
   1. This article doesn’t fit easily in any class, but it does bring up good questions about how beauty is defined -- <http://newsela.com/articles/afro-beauty/id/3370/>

