Kimi Antonelli, F1 World Champion (November 3, 2026)

TEACHING GUIDE

ℹ️ **What?** Italian driver Kimi Antonelli has won the 2026 Formula 1 World Championship—the most prestigious title in motor racing. 🏆

👤 **Who?** Kimi Antonelli, a 20-year-old driver for the Mercedes team, who is competing in only his second season of Formula 1. 🏎️

🌍 **Where?** He was crowned champion at the Mexican Grand Prix, held at the Autódromo Hermanos Rodríguez circuit in Mexico City.

🕰️ **When?** It happened on Sunday, November 1, 2026, with four races still remaining in the season.

❓ **Why is it important?** At 20 years old, he has become the youngest champion in F1 history and the first Italian to win the title since 1953. 🥇

🎯 **For this activity, your goal will be to learn a little more about Kimi Antonelli.** 🏁

OBJECTIVES

- Discover how Kimi Antonelli became the youngest world champion in F1 history
- Calculate the exact age of the five youngest world champions when they won their first title
- Compare these ages using a chart
- Convert the dimensions of the Mercedes W17 (mm, cm, m)
- Calculate an area and a ratio from a dimensioned diagram
- Learn the origin of the “Silver Arrows” nickname and tell legend from historical fact

SUBJECTS

- **Mathematics**
  - Measuring time (years, months, days)
  - Converting units of length
  - Area of a rectangle and ratios
- **English**
  - Understanding an informational text
  - Telling legend from fact
- **Social Studies / Culture**
  - History of motor racing
  - National racing colors

COMPETENCIES

- Use a digital tool to perform a calculation
- Read and interpret a chart and a dimensioned diagram
- Perform simple conversions and calculations
- Read and understand an informational text
- Think critically about an unverified story
- Search for information online

DURATION

- Approximately 60 minutes

GETTING STARTED

- Ask the child what they know about Formula 1
- Ask them at what age they think someone can become an F1 world champion
- Ask them whether they think an F1 car is taller or shorter than they are
- Ask them why some sports teams are associated with a color

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STEP 1 — Champion at 20! Calculating the exact age of the five youngest F1 world champions when they won their first title, using an online date calculator (years, months, days).

Q1 — 24 years, 1 month, and 27 days (Fernando Alonso).
Q2 — 20 years, 2 months, and 7 days (Kimi Antonelli).
Q3 — 24 years, 2 months, and 12 days (Max Verstappen).
Q4 — 23 years, 9 months, and 26 days (Lewis Hamilton).
Q5 — 23 years, 4 months, and 11 days (Sebastian Vettel). (Accept one extra day if the calculator includes the end date.)

STEP 2 — The Champion's Ride. Reading a dimensioned diagram of the Mercedes W17, then converting units and calculating an area and a ratio.

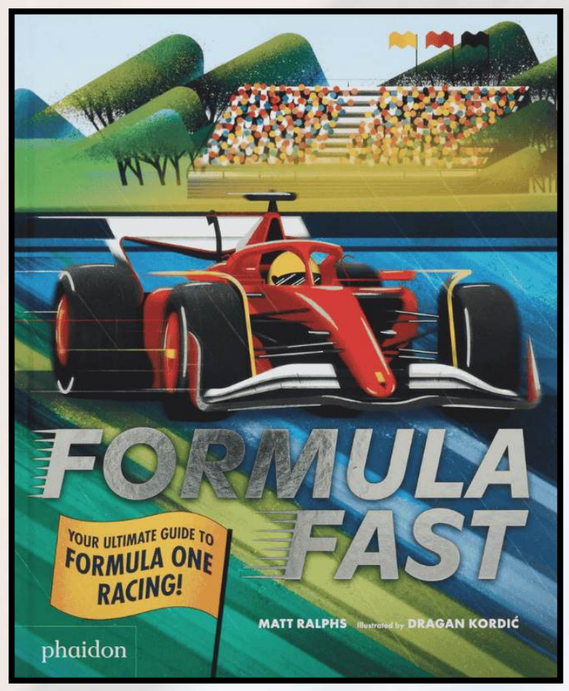
Q6 — 5.505 m.
Q7 — 97 cm. Answers will vary: most 10-to-12-year-olds are taller than the car.
Q8 — 5.5 m × 1.9 m = 10.45 m².
Q9 — 5,505 ÷ 1,900 ≈ 2.9 times longer than it is wide.

STEP 3 — The Silver Arrows. Reading a text about the origin of the Mercedes nickname, then answering five multiple-choice questions.

Q10 — White.
Q11 — Because the car was one kilogram over the weight limit.
Q12 — Because no documents from that era confirm it. (Neubauer only told the story more than 20 years later.)
Q13 — Auto Union.
Q14 — Eight.

WRAPPING UP

- Talk with the child about what they discovered
- Ask them what surprised them the most (a champion more than 3 years younger than Vettel, a car shorter than a child, the paint scraped off overnight)
- Discuss the difference between a legend and a verified fact: how can we tell if a story is true?
- Ask them which driver or team they would like to follow next season



FURTHER EXPLORATION

📖 Matt Ralphs (illustrated by Dragan Kordić). *Formula Fast: Your Ultimate Guide to Formula One Racing!* Phaidon



EXPLORERS PLUS — The Champions' Grid

Hidden word — KIMI ANTONELLI

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The Champions' Grid

The Formula 1 championship has existed since 1950. By 2026, it had reached its 77th season —the most prestigious championship in motor racing!



Since 1950, 36 drivers have won the FIA Formula 1 World Drivers' Championship trophy (that's its official name!).

We've put together a grid to help you get to know some of the great F1 champions and the teams they drove for. Your task is to find 32 names of champions and 15 teams.

Note: Some names appear only once, even if multiple drivers have held them (e.g., Hill, Rosberg)!

Head over to Wikipedia to find the information you need.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Formula_One_World_Drivers%27_Champions

K	V	B	U	T	T	O	N	S	C	H	U	M	A	C	H	E	R
B	E	N	E	T	T	O	N	V	E	R	S	T	A	P	P	E	N
I	T	M	R	O	S	B	E	R	G	P	I	Q	U	E	T	I	F
H	T	A	H	U	L	M	E	A	N	D	R	E	T	T	I	R	A
A	E	B	R	M	S	S	V	I	L	L	E	N	E	U	V	E	N
K	L	F	B	A	U	T	M	N	F	E	R	R	A	R	I	N	G
K	T	I	R	N	R	E	E	T	Y	R	R	E	L	L	W	A	I
I	S	T	A	S	T	W	R	A	M	A	T	R	A	A	I	U	O
N	C	T	W	E	E	A	C	S	J	C	C	R	L	L	L	L	H
E	H	I	N	L	E	R	E	C	O	L	O	E	O	O	L	T	U
N	E	P	O	L	S	T	D	A	N	A	O	D	T	N	I	M	N
N	C	A	H	I	L	L	E	R	E	R	P	B	U	S	A	C	T
E	K	L	A	U	D	A	S	I	S	K	E	U	S	O	M	L	F
R	T	D	M	A	S	E	R	A	T	I	R	L	L	L	S	A	A
I	E	I	P	R	O	S	T	H	A	M	I	L	T	O	N	R	R
N	R	S	E	N	N	A	R	A	I	K	K	O	N	E	N	E	I
D	B	R	A	B	H	A	M	H	A	W	T	H	O	R	N	N	N
T	N	O	R	R	I	S	I	A	L	F	A	R	O	M	E	O	A

The hidden word is the first and last name of an F1 champion!