

Getting the Scoop on Newspapers

A Brief History

The first newspapers goes back more than 500 years ago to the Renaissance when the news was spread by merchants via hand written newsletters. The news included information about wars, economic conditions, social customs and human interest features. The first printed forerunners of the newspaper appeared in Germany in the late 1400's in the form of news pamphlets or broadsides.

The predecessors of the newspaper in English-speaking countries were called corantos, small news pamphlets produced only when some newsworthy event happened. The first true newspaper in English was the *London Gazette* begun in 1666.

Newspaper Word Scramble

Can you unscramble these words to find out what these news words are?

TRIPN _____

PPARE _____

NKI _____

SPRES _____

EPRTORRE _____

SENW _____

DIETRO _____

OMCICS _____

POTRSS _____

SDA _____

SLCAFDIES _____

DLEVRIYE _____

Parts of a Newspaper

Label the parts of a newspaper. Write the words below onto pieces of paper or white stickers then glue them on the right spot on the newspaper.

Flag
Dateline
Cutline or caption
News story

Byline
Index
Headline
Photo

Classroom Newspaper

Newspapers are fun way to keep track of events in your classroom. First, decide who is going to work on what section of the newspaper. Then decide what news stories will be included.

Before you begin any work, its a good idea to have a look at a few different ex-

amples. Collect some from home, or find them at your local or school library. Take note of what sections you see. How long are the articles? How many photos are there? Are any illustrations or drawings included?

Some questions to ask:

- Do you want a sports section?
- An arts page?
- A science column?
- What do you like reading about? Do you prefer pictures or stories?
- What do you like best in the newspapers you read?
- How many pages will your newspaper have?
- Who will write the articles?
- Who will draw the pictures and/or take the photos?
- How many articles, news stories, crosswords etc. will the newspaper have?



Newspaper Word Search

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

CLASSIFIED
DAILY
DELIVERY
EDITOR
NEWS

PAPER
PRESS
PRINT
REPORTER
SPORTS

Look at the News

Do you ever wonder why something is in the newspaper? Before a story is included in the newspaper, or is considered newsworthy, it has to meet one or more of the following tests:

- Timeliness (did it happen recently)
- Nearness (how close did it happen to you)
- Consequences
- Conflict, drama, oddity or emotional impact

The more newsworthy the story is the closer to the front and/or top of the page it will be.

What to Do:

Read three different kinds of articles and use the rules above to determine why it was included in the newspaper. Answer these questions

Do you think it was newsworthy?

What could have made it more newsworthy?

Where was it located in the paper? Was it more newsworthy than the front page stories?

Did hear about news elsewhere that you thought was more newsworthy but wasn't in the paper?

Writing From the News

Find a newspaper article about an event. Write a story about what happened before the event happened. For example, if you chose an article about people attending a fundraiser you could write about getting ready for it by either the guests or the hosts.

Electrifying Collage

Find as many pictures of things that run on electricity (things that need to be plugged in) as you can in the newspaper. Cut them out and paste onto a piece of construction paper to create a collage.

- How many did you find?

- How many of these things do you have in your house?

Good Eats From the Paper

Draw three circles the size of dinner plates. Using the newspaper, cut out foods to make nutritious meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Paste the foods onto your dinner plates.

Some Comic Relief

Find the comics section in the index of the newspaper. Cut out two cartoon then paste them on paper and erase the words. Write what you think they should say in the balloons. Share it with the rest of the class.

