

Elementary Activities



Lesson 1: All About My Community

- Your newspaper has many stories about people and events in your community. Circle all stories you can find about your community in the newspaper.
- Count stories you find in the different categories listed in the chart below.
- Write the headline for the story you found most interesting in each category.
- Compare your favorite headlines with those of a classmate.

Stories about ...	Number of stories	Your favorite headline
Schools or school students		
Local government: mayor, school board, city or town council meeting		
Local sports: school and community leagues		
Interesting things to see: museums, special events, concerts		
Community group activities: fundraising events, parades		



Lesson 2: A Good Place to Live

- Find stories and pictures about your community in the newspaper.
- Find three stories that show things you would like a visitor to know about your community.
- Cut out the headlines from each story and paste them on this page.
- Under each headline, tell why you want a visitor to know about this story.

Headline

Why would you want a visitor to know about this?

.....

.....

Headline

Why would you want a visitor to know about this?

.....

.....

Headline

Why would you want a visitor to know about this?

.....

.....

Lesson 3: It's A Great Place to Live

- Find stories and pictures about your community in the newspaper.
- Circle in red stories about things you like. Circle in blue stories about things you would change.
- Write several sentences telling what you like about your community.
- Write several sentences telling what you would change in your community to improve it.

My town is special. I like it because ...

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

If I could change something about my town to make it even better, I would ...

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Lesson 4: It's Important

- Read stories in different parts of the newspaper.
- Cut out headlines for the five stories you think are most important.
- Paste the headlines on this page. Put the story you think is the most important at the top. Put the next most important story under it. Paste the rest of the headlines in order of importance to you.
- Discuss with a classmate why you picked these stories.

Most Important Story

Least Important Story

Lesson 5: Presidential News

- Find a story in the newspaper about the president.
- Cut out the headline for the story and paste it on this page. If there is a picture of the president, paste it on the page, too.
- Write several sentences that describe why the president is in the news.

Headline

Why is the president in the news?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Lesson 6: Where in the World?

- Find a story about another country in the newspaper.
- Paste the headline on this page. If there is a map or picture that shows where the story takes place, paste it here, too.
- Find answers to the Five Ws in the story.

Headline

Who is the story about?

.....

What is happening in the story?

.....

.....

.....

Where does the story take place?

.....

When did the story happen?

.....

Why is the story important?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Activity 8: Making a Prediction

- Find a headline in the newspaper for a story that you think will be interesting to read.
- Cut out the headline, but don't read the story yet. Paste the headline on this page.
- Think about the headline. What do you think the story will be about? Write three predictions on this page.
- Now read the story. Put a check mark (✓) next to the predictions that were correct.

Headline

My predictions:

1.
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

2.
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

3.
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Lesson 9: What Do You Think?

- The newspaper has special pages where people can share opinions on different subjects. Find the section in your newspaper that is labeled “editorial,” “commentary” or “opinion.”
- Work with a classmate. Find these special things about the editorial section:
 - Put the number 1 next to a letter to the editor.
 - Put the number 2 next to the editorial cartoon.
 - Put the number 3 next to the newspaper’s editorial.
 - Put the number 4 next to a column that shows the writer’s opinion.
- Now think about a topic on which you have an opinion. Write several sentences giving your opinion. Tell why you think this is an important topic. Tell what you think should be done about it.

I have an opinion about

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

I think

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Lesson 10: It's for Sale

- Look at the ads in the newspaper.
- Find an ad that fills at least half of the newspaper page. Answer these questions about the ad:

What is the name of the store or business?

.....

What is for sale?

.....

Where is the store located?

.....

How can you contact the store if you need more information?

.....

.....

- Find a very small ad. Answer these questions about the ad:

What is the name of the store or business?

.....

What is for sale?

.....

Where is the store located?

.....

How can you contact the store if you need more information?

.....

.....

- Why do you think some stores use big ads and others use small ads?

.....

.....

.....

Lesson 11: Classified Information

- Look in the classified section of the newspaper. Use the index to find the sections for “pets” and “automobiles.”
- Use the “pets” section to find a pet you would like to have. Answer these questions about the ad:

What pet will you look for in the ads?

.....

Name two things the ad told you about the animal.

.....

Why do you think this information is in the ad?

.....

.....

- Use the “automobiles” section to find a vehicle you would like your family to have. Answer these questions about the ad:

What vehicle will you look for in the ads?

.....

Name two things the ad told you about the vehicle.

.....

Why do you think this information is in the ad?

.....

.....

- Name two ways that classified ads are different from the other ads in the newspaper.

.....

.....

.....



Lesson 12: Sports Fan

- Look at the sports section of the newspaper. Find a story about a popular sports team.
- Paste the headline of the story on this page. If there is a photo, paste it on the page, too.
- Answer the questions about the story in the space below.

Headline

What is the name of the team?

What sport does it play?

What city and state is the team from?

Who is one player mentioned in the story?

Why do you like this sport?

.....

PASTE PHOTO HERE
(or on the back of this sheet, if you need
more space)

Lesson 13: Let's Have Fun

- Look at the entertainment section of the newspaper.
 - Find a movie you would like to see. Paste the ad for the movie on this page.
- Answer these questions about the movie.

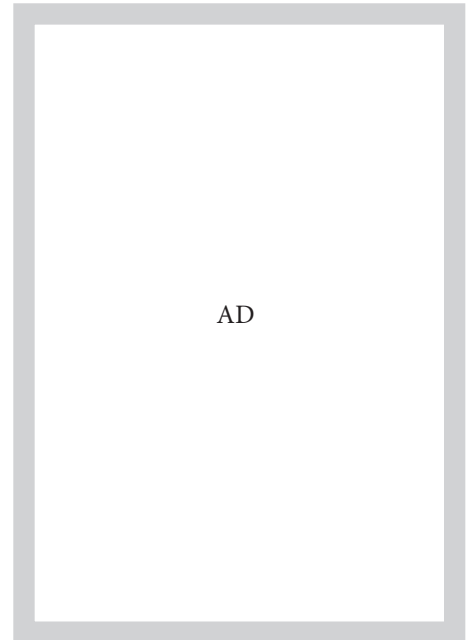
What is the title of the movie?

Where is the movie playing?

At what times is the movie showing?

Why do you want to see this movie?

Why do you like this movie?



- Find a special show, concert or community event you would like to attend. Paste the ad or information about event on the back of this page. Answer these questions about the event.

What is the event?

Where does it take place?

What time is the event?

Why do you want to go?

Lesson 14: Something for Everyone

- Find three stories, photographs or features in the newspaper that you think would be interesting to three different family members or friends. These could be current news stories or special newspaper columns (such as personal advice, humor, home decorating, car repair, fashion, sports or the arts).
- Paste headlines for the news stories, the names of special columns or the captions for photographs on this page. Under each item, explain why your family member or friend probably would like this item.

Headline/Title/Caption

Who would like this story or photo?

.....

Why would this person like the story or photo?

.....

Headline/Title/Caption

Who would like this story or photo?

.....

Why would this person like the story or photo?

.....

Headline/Title/Caption

Who would like this story or photo?

.....

Why would this person like the story or photo?

.....

Lesson 15: My Newspaper and Me

○ The newspaper contains many interesting things to read. What you like may be different from what a classmate likes. Look at the list below and find an example of each item that interests you. Write the page number where you found it. Then tell what you like about using the newspaper.

What do you like?	On what page did you find it?
Find a story about a person you would like to know more about.	
Find a sports story you like.	
Find a comic strip you like.	
Find an ad for something you would like to have.	
Find a place you would like to visit.	
Find something that is special or important to you.	

Write a paragraph that tells what you have learned about newspapers.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....