



Newspapers

Unit Study Guide

West Brooke Curriculum

Use your encyclopedia under “newspapers” to fill in the following information:

Newspapers are one the oldest methods of getting the news to the people. Some adults read the newspaper every day, and this may be the only thing they read! Today, we have many other modern ways to receive the news such as: radios, TV, satellite, and magazines; but, newspapers still remain popular. What news articles would you find on the front page of a newspaper?

Why does advertising often occupy more space in the newspaper than does the news? _____

Editorials are based on someone’s _____ on all sorts of topics of interest to readers. The Editorial page would include _____ from the readers. In this way the thoughts and ideas of interested citizens may be known. Newspapers include many things besides the news & editorial page please list some here: _____

Early American papers started off as a weekly publication. As cities grew, so did the need for more newspapers. Large cities have grown to have a daily newspaper, often their largest being on Sunday. List three major newspapers in America by their proper name:

The chief executive of the newspaper is called the _____ (who often is also the owner). Those reporting to him or her are the following: (match these up with their jobs)

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Chief Editor | ✍ One who chooses art & pictures for articles |
| news reporters | ✍ Men who run the printing presses |
| graphics editor | ✍ Manages layout of paper & all that go in paper |
| artists | ✍ Decides news articles to go in & proofs them |
| photographer | ✍ Manages sales agents & brings in National adv. |
| production manager | ✍ One who draws cartoons or pictures for paper |
| press operators | ✍ Sells advertising |
| advertising manager | ✍ One who chases down news story & writes it |
| salespersons | ✍ Sells Classifieds & oversees other salespersons |
| circulation manager | ✍ Sent out to take pic. Of events & makes prints |
| Classified manager | ✍ Oversees stuffing & distribution of papers |

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT: The Chief Editor will often assign news stories for their news reporters to go out and get. A _____ reporter will hold a long term assignment in one area or beat, such as a _____ reporter will follow crimes, and an _____ reporter will follow school news. National news may be obtain from outside agencies such as _____ or _____.

WONDER QUESTION

Is the news truth? What is your opinion on this? _____

Once a newspaper has a good reputation, do they always have a good reputation? _____ Why? _____

WONDER QUESTION

What is a press release? _____

PRINTING THE NEWSPAPER

Each day a newspaper must be “put to bed” by a specific time or a _____, in order to be delivered to the public at a certain time. How would you feel to be on a daily deadline? _____

When the edition has been put to bed, it is turned over to the pressmen. Today newspapers are printed on _____ presses, which use curved printing plates. The printing method is called _____.

ADVERTISING & CIRCULATION

Newspapers want to have a large circulation (or # of people delivered to) so they can sell advertising on that number. Of course an advertiser would want to reach as many people as possible. With a higher circulation, the more advertisers would want to use your paper. That would be a good thing because the more circulation you have the more it cost to print!!! This all requires a lot of team effort and qualities such as HONESTY and COOPERATION. Without these, there would be no newspaper.



Read: “Adrift in a Sea of Advertising” 8/22/98 *Awake!* pg 3-7
 “Oldest Printed Ad” 6/22/02 *Awake!* pg 28-29

HISTORY OF NEWSPAPERS

In ancient Rome, hand written notices called _____ were posted in public places to inform citizens of battles, election results, Senate actions, and other news. Newsletters were also sent by courier from the capital to the far reaches of the empire about events in Rome. Of course, you had to be able to read to get the information!!

Read: “Gutenberg—How He Enriched the World!” 11/8/98 *Awake!* pg16-19

Timeline

600 AD	Germany	Europe	1566	1594	1622
block print	mid-1400's	Newspapers	Italy	Germany	London
China	Johann		began to		England
	Gutenberg=		appear		<i>Weekly News</i>
	Moveable type	1500			

In the American colonies the first newspaper published was in 1690 but was suppressed by the colonial government after the first issue. In 1704 the *Boston News-Letter* began and lasted 72 years. Benjamin Franklin first published articles for his brother’s newspaper under the code name _____. Later, Benjamin Franklin began publishing the *Pennsylvania Gazette* weekly in Philadelphia in 1729. Franklin was one of the first American editors to use illustrations in a newspaper. They were printed using wood cut blocks. In many homes there were two books, the Bible and an Almanac. Franklin published his own almanac, which he called *Poor Richard’s Almanack*. The writer was supposed to be a poor astrologer named Richard Saunders. Of course there was no such person- Franklin wrote it himself. He liked to include “proverbial sentences” which he is still known for to this day.

“God helps them that help themselves.”
“Fish and visitors stink in three days.”
“Three may keep a secret , if two of them are dead.”
“Early to bed and early to rise, Makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise.”
“Never leave that till tomorrow which you can do today.”

Use Franklin’s sayings as copywork/handwriting practice.

Beginning in the 1830's, mass-circulation papers were founded. One of the keys to their success was the price- one cent per issue. *The New York Times* was one of these papers. Use *The New York Times* **The 20th Century book to research these main headlines, also read some of the articles!!! (you can use internet searches as well) :**

Who’s Who and What Happened:

April 16, 1912 _____

Who’s pictured: _____

What was happening in 1914? _____

Who was murdered that started it all? _____

What was going on in May of 1961 and Feb. of 1962? _____

_____ **Who?** _____

On Nov. 23, 1963 _____ **is Killed by Sniper as He Rides in Car in**

Dallas; _____ **is sworn in on Plane**

July 21, 1969 Men Walk on _____ **;** _____ **Land on Plain; Collect** _____ **, Plant** _____

June 27, 2000 _____ **of Human Life is Cracked by Scientists.**

Activities

1. Collect a local paper and one from a large metropolitan area near you. Read some interesting articles, and note the layout of the paper. Our local paper is a bi-weekly newspaper and the others are dailies.

Which did you enjoy better? _____

Newspapers are laid out in sections A, B, C, D, etc.

In our local paper:

A section reports _____

B _____

C _____



2. Design your own newspaper for your family, your town, or your homeschool group to be shared with your family & friends upon completion.

You need Large sheets of paper for this. You may be able to get end rolls to use for this project from your local

Newspaper's office; you can also use butcher paper. Your newspaper will be 2 pages long. It will include the

following: 2 or more news articles, and editorial, a letter to the editor, movie review, and a cartoon. This project can be done by hand or with the help of a computer or typewriter. Put your heart into it!!! Your deadline is:



3. Design and write your own "Awake!" article on a subject of interest to you.

4. For younger ones: use older Awake! And WT magazines to cut out pictures and make a collage on a topic of your choosing such as: mammals, birds, structures, Bible characters.....

5. Write a notebooking page for Johannes Gutenberg

http://www.homeschoolhelperonline.com/notebooking/biography/johannes_gutenberg.shtml

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Math

1. If your circulation is 15,500 and one of your couriers reports that 1,200 of his papers were stolen off of his truck, what will your circulation today be?
2. The stuffers (advertising glossies that go in the middle of a paper) ran out of ads at 12,300 (your circulation is still 15,500) how many were they short?
3. The Advertising Manager is having a hard time keeping Salespersons on staff. She originally had a staff of 12 when 3 of them quit this week. Of course last week 2 quit. This week she hired 7 more. How many salespersons did she end up with?

Word Problems from *Career Math*

Newspaper Editor

Mike works as an editor of a big newspaper in Chicago. Mike's job is to read the stories before the newspaper is printed. He makes sure the information is correct. He checks for proper spelling and makes sure the story is easy to understand. He writes the headline. When the story is the way it should be, he sends it to be printed.

- 1) The paper will be printed at 11:00 p.m. It is now 7:30 p.m. How much time does Mike have to get his stories ready?
- 2) The story has 1,436 words. The space allowed will hold only 1,200 words, How many words must Mike edit out of the story?
- 3) The first daily newspaper in the United States was published in 1784. How many years ago was that?
- 4) Each section of the newspaper has 24 pages. There are 3 sections. How many pages in all?
- 5) Mike edited 54 pages of copy in 6 hours. How many pages in one hour?
- 6) The Sunday paper has 3 new sections, 2 sports sections, 4 sections of classified ads, 1 comic section, 1 business section, 2 lifestyle sections, and 1 entertainment section. How many sections in all?

Reading list & Websites:

Find books from your library on Newspapers, Advertising, Cartooning.

Here are some suggestions:

Deadline: From news to Newspaper! Gail Gibbons

The Furry News: How to make a Newspaper Loreen Leedy

<http://vimeo.com/6347971>

The Landry News Andrew Clements

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Landry_News

<http://www.csnmail.net/~stjoan5/landryrg.htm>

The Newspaper Kids Juanita Phillips

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newspapers>

The Art of Cartooning Roger Armstrong

"Newspapers Do They Shape Your Thinking?" 10/22/05 *Awake!* Pgs 3-10

"From Our Archives Preserving Gems From Our Past" 1/15/12 *Watchtower* pgs 31-32

<http://www.thebookchook.com/2010/11/making-books-with-children-newspapers.html>

http://www.dmoz.org/Kids_and_Teens/News/Newspapers/

(a list I found online)

BOOKS ABOUT NEWSPAPERS

The following books contain newspapers-related themes.

The level is given only as a general reference and does not indicate the only level at which that book may be used effectively.

Elementary

"Aunt Chip and the Great Triple Creek Dam Affair," by

Patricia Polacco, hardback, unpagged, Philomel Books, ISBN 0-399-22943-4

Summary: In this fantasy, a town finds out the hard way the consequences of not reading, but in the end they are saved by the written word.

"Breaking into Print," by Stephen Krensky, hardback, unpagged,

Little Brown, ISBN 0-316-50376-2

Summary: This beautifully-illustrated book describes the nature of books in the world before the development of the printing press and the subsequent effect of that invention on civilization.

"Nellie Bly's Monkey," by Joan W. Blos, hardback, unpagged,

Morrow Junior Books, ISBN 0-688-12677-4

Summary: On her round-the-world trip, Nellie Bly reportedly picked up a monkey in Singapore. This is the monkey's version of the story.

"Nothing Is Impossible, said Nellie Bly," by Judy Carlson

paperback, 31 pages, Steck-Vaughn, ISBN 0-8114-6721-X

Summary: A mini-biography of trailblazing reporter Nellie Bly and her trip around the world in less than eighty days.

"The True Story of the Three Little Pigs," by Jon Scieszka, hard- and paperback, unpagged, Puffin

Books, ISBN 0-14- 054451-8

Summary: The wolf gives his own outlandish version of what really happened when he tangled with the three little pigs.

Intermediate/Middle

The Get Real Series by Linda Ellerbee

#1 "Girl Reporter Blows Lid off Town!" paperback,
195 pages, Avon Books, ISBN 0-06-440755-1

Summary: Casey Smith, an intrepid 11-year-old journalist, revives her middle school's defunct newspaper and investigates what looks like an environmental pollution cover-up at the local paper mill.

#2 "Girl Reporter Sinks School!" paperback, 165 pages, Avon Books, ISBN 0-06-440756-X

Summary: Eleven-year-old Casey Smith decides to do an investigative story for the school paper about a cheating ring operating on campus.

#4 "Girl Reporter Snags Crush!" paperback,
229 pages, Avon Books, ISBN 0-06-440758-6

Summary: Intrepid 11-year-old journalist Casey Smith protests Crush Cola's corporate sponsorship of her school, a deal that would give the company a monopoly on the soda sold there.

Other

"It's News to Me," a board game and activity book centered on journalism produced by Newline Publication, Pittsburgh, PA, 1-412-781-0595.

"Modern Marvels: Newspapers," a 50-minute video produced by the History Channel.

"News History Gazette," a 35-page tab-sized history of the news industry with a special pullout poster of front pages through the ages. Produced by The Newseum, 1-888-NEWSEUM.

"Rookie Reporter," a CD-ROM adventure into journalism for upper elementary and middle schoolers. Available from the Meridian Creative Group, 1-800-695-9427.

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