

INTRODUCTION

EXTRA! EXTRA! LEARN ALL ABOUT THE NEWSPAPER

Newspaper Reporters is a sensational new 48 page language arts resource designed to excite students about reading and writing by using the newspaper. Students will learn how a newspaper is produced and how to write the various types of newspaper articles.

The lessons and hands-on activities of the first section are designed to help students understand how a newspaper is run and produced. To illustrate the lessons, students are directed to find specific items in a daily newspaper. (These may be given as homework assignments.) They also complete exercises requiring them to differentiate between fact and opinion, to research topics for features, to read a movie guide, to prepare newspaper art, to make decisions, and more.

Then students are challenged to become reporters as they conduct interviews, do the background research, and use the 5 W's and How to organize note taking and write lead sentences. They will write their own articles and headlines using the inverted pyramid form for news and sports stories and other styles for editorials, features, and reviews. Students will also prepare comics, puzzles, and ads as they complete their survey of newspaper writing.

In addition, activities designed to increase vocabulary, teach proofreading skills, use an index, etc. improve general language arts skills. With activities that extend into other curriculum areas—science (weather), maths (purchasing papers), social studies (career awareness), art (printing), etc.—*Newspaper Reporters* could be used as the central resource for a whole language thematic unit. This versatile book is a must for language teachers!

USING THE BOOK

Teachers may wish to have their students keep a scrapbook into which they will put the items they collect from newspapers and the projects they produce as part of the lessons. The vocabulary-increasing activity suggested on page 46 may be introduced early in the unit and entries made into this scrapbook. A field trip to a local newspaper, if possible, would be an enlivening addition to the unit.



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