



IT'S NEWS TO ME

(30 minutes)

OBJECTIVE

Students learn how to distinguish the different parts of a newspaper.

MATERIALS

Two copies of a local or national newspaper

GET READY

- ✓ Obtain two copies of a local or national newspaper.
- ✓ Leave one newspaper intact and prepare to cut the other.
- ✓ Identify a few articles or advertisements from the newspaper you have selected to cut; you are trying to find examples of the different components of a newspaper. For example, locate and cut out an article from the sports section, an article from the news section, and also an advertisement.
- ✓ Photocopy these articles so that you have multiple sets of them. (You will be breaking your class up into groups of three or four so make sure to have a set of articles for each group.)
- ✓ Make labels for the different newspaper clippings. (For example, have one label say *Sports Article*, another *Advertisement*, and one *News Article*.) Make sure you have a set of labels for each group of students as well.
- ✓ If possible, laminate the labels and articles and/or advertisements.

INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ Have a discussion with your class about newspapers. Explain to your students why people read them. Also make sure you describe various newspaper components: advertisements, sports articles, news articles (local, national and international), travel articles, cooking articles, and so on.
- ✓ Using the newspaper you left intact, show your class an example for each section you discuss. For example, say, *This is an advertisement because it's about a product that's on sale. This is a sports article because it's about a baseball game.*
- ✓ Break your class up into small groups of three or four. Give each group the set of articles/advertisements you laminated as well as the labels.
- ✓ Have the groups figure out which article or advertisement fits which label.
- ✓ Go over the correct answers with your class and ask the groups to provide explanations for how they matched the clippings and labels.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ★ *What did you learn about a newspaper that you didn't know before?*
- ★ *Why is it important to understand what the different parts of a newspaper mean?*
- ★ *Why do we have newspapers?*