

Second Grade Newspaper Activity Lesson

Lesson written by Lisa Davison for News In Education, Chicago Tribune

This lesson works best when older students are paired with younger students. It was designed for a writing "buddy" program that paired 7th and 2nd grade students but can be modified for all grade levels.

1. **Introduce different parts of the newspaper** and generally orient the students to the structure, news, vocabulary, etc. This will be interactive, using their newspaper. (Approximately 15 minutes)

Words to Review:

Nameplate	Caption/cutline	Editorial
Masthead	Index	Review
Headline	Tab/broadsheet	Ad (classified and display)
Dateline	News story	Sections of paper
Byline	Feature	

2. **Newspaper Scavenger Hunt** of 5 to 8 items in the paper. (Approximately 10-15 minutes.)

Skim the newspaper for examples in each of the following categories. List the section and page number; be sure you don't use the same page twice.

	EXAMPLE	SECTION	PAGE #
INDEX			
A WORLD LEADER			
A GRAPH			
A CARTOON			
LETTER TO THE EDITOR			
TV LISTINGS			
STOCK REPORTS			
HIGH TEMPERATURE IN ATLANTA			
A FOREIGN COUNTRY			
A MAP			

3. **"Writing Buddy"** groups. Each group receives a writing assignment. They must complete a good working draft before they leave the session. Write these assignments out in depth on separate cards, using the details on the Writing Buddy Groups ideas page. (Approximately 25 minutes)

Ideas:

- feature story: profile of a person (could be writing buddy, or parent, etc.)
- review of a TV show, story, or movie
- classified ad to sell two different items
- classified ad for a job
- editorial endorsing a favorite sports team/or athlete
- editorial on something they strongly like/dislike at school
- news story on something happening at school, in neighborhood, etc.
- advertisement to invite people to visit the Freedom Center
- news story on a current issue
- choose three pictures from the paper and create a news story
- create an advertisement for people to watch the Salt Lake City Olympics on TV
- write a response to an editorial for "letters to the editor"