

**Teacher Name:** D. Ricci

**Content:** Language Arts

**Date:** March 18, 2002

**Grade Level:** 5th

**Title :** School Newspaper

**Overview :** Pupils will run a school newspaper on the school website. They will use different literary forms to present the news of the school.  
Key vocabulary: Fact; Opinion

**Goal(s):**

1. Pupils will create a school newspaper containing three aspects: Latest News, Editorial, and Sports.
2. Pupils will post the school newspaper on the school website.

**Standards:**

Standards:

NYS Learning Standards: English Language Arts

Standard 1: Students will read, write, speak, and listen for information and understanding. Intermediate.

Students will:

- compare and synthesize information from different sources.
- use a wide variety of strategies for selecting, organizing, and categorizing information.
- distinguish between relevant and irrelevant information and between fact and opinion.
- relate new information to prior knowledge and experience.
- understand and use the text features that make information accessible and usable, such as format, sequence, level of diction, and relevance of details.
- establish an authoritative stance on the subject and provide references to establish the validity and verifiability of the information presented.
- develop information with appropriate supporting material, such as facts, details, illustrative examples or anecdotes, and exclude extraneous materials.
- use the process of pre-writing, drafting, revising, and proofreading (the "writing process") to produce well-constructed informational texts.

Standard 2: Students will read, write, speak, and listen for literary response and expression. Intermediate

Students will:

- use standard English effectively.

Standard 3: Students will read, write, speak, and listen for critical analysis and evaluation. Intermediate.

Students will:

- analyze, interpret, and evaluate information, ideas, organization, and language from academic and nonacademic texts, such as textbooks, public documents, book and movie reviews, and editorials.
- evaluate their own and others' work based on a variety of criteria and recognize the varying effectiveness of different approaches.

Standard 4: Students will read, write, listen, and speak for social interaction.

Intermediate.

Students will:

- listen attentively to others and build on others' ideas in conversations with peers and adults.
- express ideas and concerns clearly and respectfully in conversations and group discussions.
- use verbal and nonverbal skills to improve communication with others.
- use appropriate language and style for the situation and the audience and take into account the ideas and interests expressed by the person receiving the message.
- read and discuss social communications and electronic communications and electronic communications of other writers and use some of the techniques of those writers in their own writing.

National Standards for English Language Arts

4. Students adjust their use of spoken, written, and visual language to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and for different purposes.

5. Students employ a wide range of strategies as they write and use different writing process elements appropriately to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes.

6. Students apply knowledge of language structure, language conventions, media techniques, figurative language, and genre to create, critique, and discuss print and nonprint texts.

12. Students use spoken, written, and visual language to accomplish their own purpose.

National Technology Standards

1. Basic operations and concepts.

-Students demonstrate a sound understanding of the nature and operation of technology systems.

-Students are proficient in the use of technology.

2. Social, ethical, and human issues.

-Students practice responsible use of technology systems, information, and software.

3. Technology productivity tools

-Students use technology tools to enhance learning, increase productivity, and promote creativity.

-Students use productivity tools to collaborate in construction technology-enhanced models, prepare publications, and produce other creative works.

4. Technology communications tools

-Students use telecommunications to collaborate, publish, and interact with peers, experts, and other audiences.

-Students use a variety of media and formats to communicate information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences.

**Objectives:**

1. Pupils will write three different types of articles- editorial, sports, and latest news.
2. Pupil will write Latest News articles as fact based articles, excluding all opinion. The article will be at least two paragraphs in length and will not exceed five paragraphs.
3. Pupil will write the Sports article as a mixture of fact and opinion. The article will be at least three paragraphs and not exceed five. The first paragraph will present facts only . The second paragraph will be a mixture of fact and opinion. The remaining paragraph(s) will be either a mix of fact and opinion or solely opinion.
4. Pupil will write editorial article as an opinion based article at least three paragraphs in length, not exceeding five paragraphs. The editorial will be an overview of events that have happened within the school or community within the past two weeks.
5. Pupil will write at least two rough drafts of their article and one final copy. All copies will be typed.
6. Pupils will organize the articles in a newspaper format, presenting first the latest news articles, second the editorial, and third the sports articles.
7. Pupils will post the newspaper on the school website monthly. It will be posted on the first Friday of each month. These students will also be responsible for updating website illustrations.
8. Pupils will work cooperatively in groups of two. Each month the group will rotate to a different responsibility.

**Materials:**

Overhead projector (for computer)  
School website that posts a school newspaper  
Our school website programmed for our school newspaper  
List of pre-determined partners  
List of pre-determined topics  
Computers(2 classroom)  
Word perfect  
Internet access  
Adaptive keyboard  
Computer paper

**Procedures:**

- A. Introduction-
  1. Use an overhead projector to read a school newspaper from a different school.
  2. Have the pupils read the different types of articles.
  3. Explore the newspaper.
- B. Development-
  1. Use newspaper for development.
  2. Demonstrate that articles are written in different formats.
    - Editorial-opinion
    - Sports-facts/opinion
    - Latest News- facts
  3. Explain that the class will be creating a school newspaper.
  4. Explain the newspaper will contain the three aspects the example contained: Latest News, Editorial, and Sports. Inform the class that the articles will appear in this order in the paper.
  5. Tell the students they will be working in pairs to create the paper. Each pair will be responsible for a different aspect. These responsibilities will be changed monthly.
  6. The paper will be posted on the first Friday of every month.
  7. Explain the five different responsibilities in creating the paper.
  8. Assign partners (pre-arranged)
- C. Practice-
  1. Assign a topic for each of the following: Latest News, Editorial and Sports (use current events from the school)
  2. Allow students ten minutes to come up with "articles".
  3. Circulate during the activity
  4. Have a few groups share their ideas. Work through them together as a class.
- D. Independent Practice-
  1. Divide the pairs into three groups.
  2. Assign each group a section (Latest News, Editorial, or Sports)
  3. Give each pair a pre-determined topic.
  4. Pupils will write a rough draft of an article.
- E. Accommodations (Differentiated Instruction)-
  1. Pre-arranged partners according to ability level.
  2. Word perfect: spell check  
grammar check  
word prediction software
  3. Adaptive keyboard with sticky keys.
  4. Oversized displays
- F. Checking for understanding-
  1. During guided practice, circulate and read the materials the pupils are writing.
  2. Have pupils read their practice articles aloud.
  3. During closure, review the criteria for each section by asking different pupils in the class.
- G. Closure-
  1. Assign independent practice.
  2. Review the criteria for each section of the newspaper.
  3. Explain class tomorrow will be spent preparing these articles for a newspaper- determining which order to place them on the website and how they will link articles to each other.

**Evaluation:**

1. The pupils will have met the criteria for their determined topic. (The correct number of paragraphs, opinion or fact based, and will remain on the assigned topic.) They will not be graded at this point.

**Teacher Reflection:**

This section will be updated daily to determine where to place the focus for the next days lesson. I plan to spend a week of class teaching the students how to create a school newspaper. The topic will be revisited every Friday.