

We're Live in 3, 2, 1...



Class News Reports

By Julie Weaver

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This is fun mini-project to add to your classroom to help keep students active and knowledgeable of current events and happenings in our world.

In this activity students will work together in a group to create a news team. Each student will be responsible for one of the lead jobs in the newscast. Six jobs are outlined in the project:

Weather Forecaster, Local Newscaster, National Newscaster, International Newscaster, Sports Reporter, and a Special Investigative Reporter.

1. Assign Groups. Explain the details of the student directions page.
2. Allow time for the students to work together to create their News Team Name and other details of the project.
3. Assign presentation days. I typically do one a week first thing in the morning. I like Mondays because it will highlight the weather for the week and any happenings over the weekend.
4. Set up a time in the day for the presenting group to meet and discuss ideas before the presentation day. Have the students arrive a little early on presentation day so that they can run through their script a few times to practice.

On the next few pages you will find:

- A student directions handout
- An idea/example for a news team script for the students to go by
- Additional ideas and Extensions for this project
- A Grading Rubric

WE'RE LIVE IN 3, 2, 1....

- Objectives:**
- *To be aware and knowledgeable of current events in our world around us.
 - *To research and find information using the newspaper, internet, and T.V.
 - *To create a report and present your findings to your classmates.
 - *To practice public speaking skills- eye contact and clarity.



In Social Studies we have learned that history repeats itself. Knowing about our history opens up our minds to events that happen today and tomorrow in our world. It is important for students to be aware and knowledgeable of current events. In this project, students will work together in groups to present a news broadcast of their own. Each person will have a different job. Read your job below to find out what you must do for your news station.

Weather Forecaster- You will report about what the weather will be like for the week. Make sure to include a TRUE daily forecast with temperature and weather conditions (sunny, cloudy, thunderstorms). You will want to make a chart to display for the class.

Local Newscaster- You will find out what is going on nearby us. It could be here in our town or in other towns within the metro area. Write out exactly what you will say in your report. You will report on at least two different events.

National Newscaster- You will find out what is going on somewhere in our country rather than our city. Write out exactly what you will say in your report. You will report on at least two different things.

International Newscaster You will report on something that is going on outside of this country. Write out exactly what you will say in your report. Report on two things.

Sports Reporter- You will want to pick at least 2 different games, and tell us what happened in the game. (Think of a short play-by-play.) What were the key points in the games? Also give out some scores for at least 5 other games. They can be from any sport of any team, just make sure to mention which sport and team.

Investigative Reporter- You might be at a special location to tell about a certain topic you have been looking into. Give the highlights of the event or topic.

An example for how to create a news broadcast script:

Your desks will be connected together and turned in the front of the room facing the audience to appear like a news desk. Students can design a long poster with their logo for the station to hang on the front of their news desk. I will be draping a sheet over the front of the desks so that your legs are not seen.

BEGINNING: You can begin your news clip by having some intro music....perhaps you want to have a saying or announce the news anchors.

GREETING: The news begins with the local news anchor, who greets everyone, announces the date, time, the station, and introduces him/herself.

INTRODUCTION: Then a casual conversation with each other, each person may say **1 sentence** that best sums up or highlights what it is that he or she will be talking about.

BODY: Now the reports will begin....
Local News Reporter gives Reports.
National News Reporter gives Reports.
International News gives Reports.

INTERMISSION: Take a **SHORT** commercial break.

CONCLUDING NEWS: Weather Report
Sports Report
Special Report on the Location

ENDING: End the News by thanking everyone for watching and perhaps giving them a slogan that will hopefully have them come back to watch again. You can play some exiting music as well.

KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER:

When you give your news, you should stick with the MAIN highlights... each report should last no longer than 1 minute tops.

Also... you need to PRACTICE. PRACTICE what you will say, and PRACTICE saying it while looking up at your audience.

Be energetic! When you give your report to the class, put enthusiasm into it! You want your audience to listen and be informed.

Have everything that you are going to say written or typed out on regular size sheets of paper. Bringing in a news article from the paper will sound chopping. You need to take out the highlights from the news article to tell the class about.

Additional Ideas and Extensions:

- Students can make up news for a FICTIONAL city/country instead of a real one. Students can brainstorm fake events and do the activity the same way.
- Students can work in teams for each role instead of one student per role. For example, 4 students can report on International News, 4 students can report on Local News, etc.
- Instead of a news broadcast, the students can do a radio broadcast. Instead of pretending they are on television, they can pretend they are on the radio.
- As a follow up activity, students can write about their experience or share with the class how they felt about the activity. Some example questions are:

Do you think sharing information is important? Why or why not?

What skills do you need in order to be a good newscaster or radio host?

What was your favorite part of the news and why?

- This activity will aid in the learning of and/or the development of the following skills:

- Teamwork
- Time Management
- Social Skills
- Critical Thinking
- Creative Thinking
- Self-Confidence
- Decision-Making
- Problem-Solving

New Report Rubric

Name _____
Presentation Day _____

Objectives	5	4	3	2	1
The student was prepared and had sufficient information for the presentation. (Followed the guidelines for assigned job.)					
The student typed or wrote out the report to follow.					
The student was well-spoken and clear.					
The student made eye contact frequently with the audience.					
The student worked cooperatively with team members.					
As a whole, the group planned and made a script for their presentation.					
The group showed neatness, promptness, and creativity.					

Additional Comments:

New Report Rubric

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