

1. Find examples in your newspaper of how people can get along with each other. Tell why it is important for people to get along. Can you also find examples of people who are disagreeing?
2. Who works where? Find a picture of a building in the newspaper and tell what kind of jobs people who work there might have.
3. Use the whole newspaper to find pictures or stories about five people who have five different jobs. Paste each one on a piece of construction paper. Describe their jobs. Include any training you think they had and how much money they might make. Would you like to have this job?
4. Make a collage of pictures from the newspaper of different kinds of jobs. Include words and advertisements.
5. Scan the newspaper to find words and pictures that describe your hometown. Cut these from the newspaper and create a collage with them.
6. Make a large map of your town and put it on a bulletin board. Cut the names or logos of stores you find in the newspaper and put them in their correct location on the map.
7. Every week cut out what you think is the most important headline in the newspaper. At the end of each quarter of the year, discuss the stories you have selected. How has your town changed? What stories continue to be important? Do a summary of all the events at the end of the year.
8. Establish a calendar of future local events in your classroom. Post upcoming events on the calendar. Were there stories about any of the events in the newspaper after they happened?
9. Search through the newspaper for as many examples of transportation as you can find. List them all. What types of transportation were available in your town 100 years ago? What types of transportation do you think will be available there 100 years from now?
10. For what products or services is your town best known? Can you find examples in the newspaper? Create an advertisement for these products using pictures and words from the newspaper.
11. Select a community problem to study for a period of time. Collect stories from the newspaper about the issue including news articles, advertisements, editorials, etc. How do you think the issue should be resolved? Write an editorial supporting your point of view.
12. Have a race through the newspaper to find as many geographical words as you can such as: hill, river, lake, plateau, etc. Find examples of as many of them as you can on a map of your state.
13. Find an article in your newspaper that includes an interview with someone. Write a list of characteristics of a good interview. Prepare the questions you would use to interview a person from history such as George Washington.
14. How many different careers can you find mentioned in one issue of the newspaper? What preparation do you think was needed for each of them?
15. Choose one page from the newspaper and think about how many jobs were involved in creating that page. List them.
16. Write to other community newspapers in your state and ask if you may have one copy of their newspaper. Compare their newspaper to yours. How are they alike? How are they different?
17. Encourage your students to study the electoral process. Use this week's newspaper to make a list of the elected officials in your town. Let your students select some of the offices and choose a character from the comics page (if you have one) to fill each office. Let them create campaign posters and ads for their candidate. Hold a mock election.
18. Create geography questions based on where professional or local sports teams are playing this week. For example, which team had to travel the furthest to play its game? How many teams played in cities that have a bay? Etc.
19. Have your students review the comics in this week's newspaper if you have comics. Are any characters doing anything that would be against the law? Which characters are taking advantage of freedoms listed in the Bill of Rights?
20. Have your students create a list of sections that appear in the newspaper: weather, news, advertising, sports, etc. Ask them to create a newspaper for a period of history they are currently studying.
21. Finding the location of stories in the news can reinforce map skills. Have your students find the location of any story that appears in the newspaper.
22. Ask your students to scan the newspaper to find pictures and stories about community helpers. Who are these people and what do they do to help the local community?
23. Ask your students to find information in your newspaper about state officials. Use the articles to create a chart showing how state government works.
24. Display or create a large map of your county and city or town on a bulletin board. Place a large question mark on several locations where stories in today's newspaper have occurred. Challenge your students to find the stories that match each question mark.
25. Categorize the news articles that appear in this week's newspaper as international news, national news, regional news, state news and local news. Which category has the most stories? Compare this to a large metropolitan newspaper. Which has more information about your local area?
26. Create a bulletin board called "Who's Who." Cut pictures and stories about people from your newspaper and mount them on the bulletin board.
27. Maintain a weekly news log for your classroom. Each week list the most important story that appears in the newspaper. At the end of the semester determine the most important news event of the semester.
28. Let your students create a geography crossword puzzle. Let them find place names in the newspaper to create the puzzle. They should read about the location to help write the clues.
29. Newspapers have been called "The First Draft of History." Let your students review the newspaper for several weeks and select articles about events they think will be reported in the history of your town 50 years from now.