

Fake news detectives: effective news literacy in the classroom

**Elli Narewska and Sorchu Hughes,
The Guardian Foundation**

Today's session:

- News in the classroom: creating a safe climate for learning.
- Why take a critical literacy approach to exploring news in the classroom?
- Fake or real? Critically questioning online information.
- Balance and bias: analysing news writing.
- Getting great writing outcomes: create a real audience and purpose for news writing.



- A free news literacy programme for 7 to 11-year-olds
- Critical literacy in the context of news
- Suite of lessons, 60+ resources, videos, workshops and a chance to hear from real journalists
- Teacher training



We aim to create a generation of news literate young people:

- **Understand and engage with news:** how and why it is produced, why it is so important, how it makes us feel
- **Critically navigate news:** spotting fake news, distinguishing fact & opinion, analysing bias, questioning sources, knowing what to trust
- **Report real news:** feeling empowered and having a voice



The NewsWise approach to teaching news literacy:

- **Fun and exciting:** embed learning within real world context of the newsroom
- **Authentic:** read, watch and discuss variety of high-quality, real news reports
- **Critical literacy** skills - not just writing skills
- **Empowering and purposeful:** write news reports on real issues/ events for a real purpose and audience - give pupils agency and voice.
- **Cross-curricular:** Literacy, Digital Literacy and Health and Wellbeing



Impact of the programme (2020-21)

More than

double

the number of pupils could tell if a news story was real or fake

67%

said they were interested in the news, compared to 36% before

91%

of pupils said they found it easy to tell if news was trustworthy, compared to 33% before

Twice

the number of pupils would check if news came from a person or source they trust

What teachers said

100%

said pupils have increased skills in thinking critically about news

96%

said the project increased pupils' engagement with news and journalism

92%

said pupils are more likely to use more than one source to check facts

100%

feel more confident in supporting pupils' news literacy

Reading - core comprehension:

- Summarising
- Asking questions
- Skimming & scanning, fact-retrieval

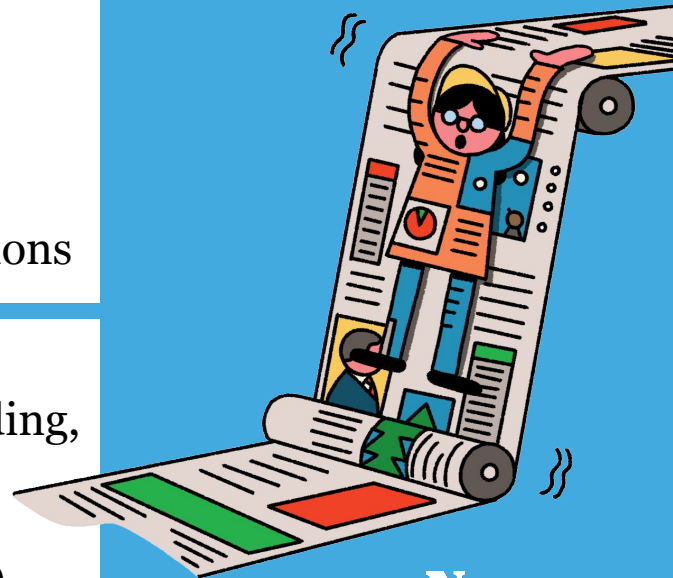
And beyond:

- Inferencing - points of view, author intention
- Distinguishing between fact & opinion
- Language, structure & presentation
- Analysis of writers' use of language
- Participating in discussion, forming & challenging opinions

Writing:

- The whole writing process (planning, writing, proofreading, editing)
- Application of grammatical and structural features
- Adapting tone for purpose & audience (formality, tense)

News in the Literacy Curriculum

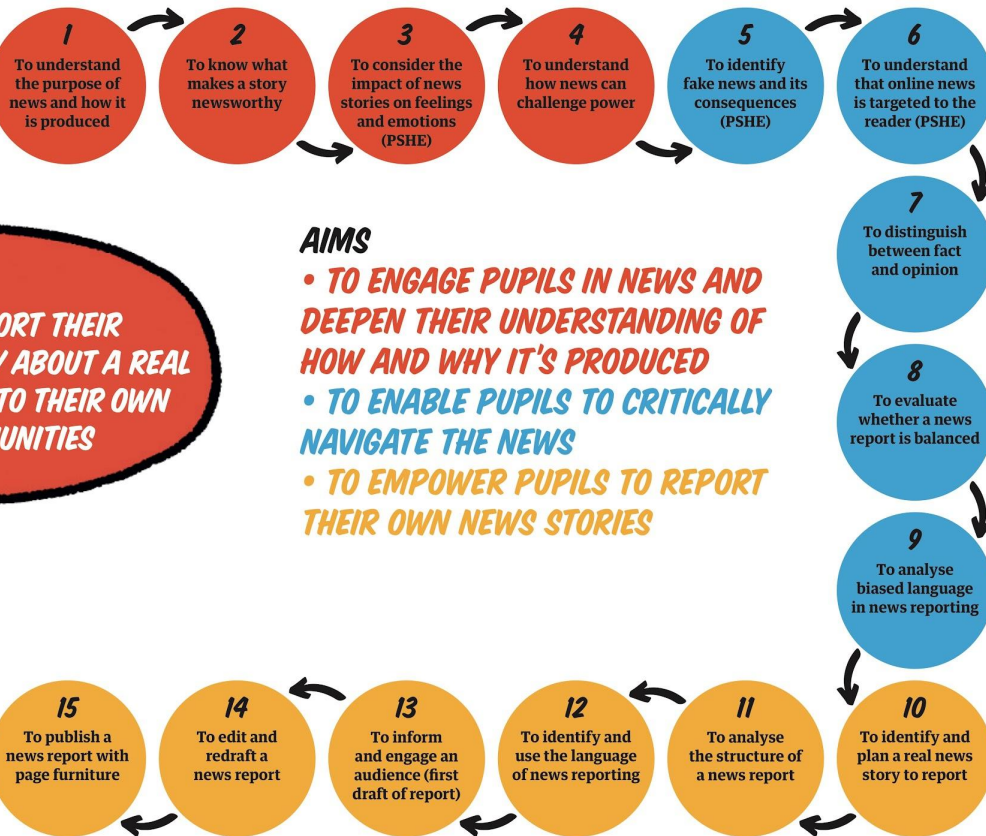


News
WISE

UNIT OF WORK LEARNING JOURNEY

OUTCOME

PUPILS WILL REPORT THEIR OWN NEWS STORY ABOUT A REAL ISSUE RELEVANT TO THEIR OWN LIVES AND COMMUNITIES



AIMS

- TO ENGAGE PUPILS IN NEWS AND DEEPEN THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF HOW AND WHY IT'S PRODUCED
- TO ENABLE PUPILS TO CRITICALLY NAVIGATE THE NEWS
- TO EMPOWER PUPILS TO REPORT THEIR OWN NEWS STORIES

Teaching news in the classroom: developing a safe climate for learning



How might news and media affect young people's wellbeing?

- Increase sense of fear, worry, anxiety or anger
- Experience grief or sadness
- Re-traumatise
- Excite or inspire
- Delight or provide joy



Developing a safe climate for discussing news

1. Agree, reinforce and model 'ground rules', including concepts of confidentiality
2. Where sensitive or controversial issues are explored, 'distance' learning from the pupils
3. Choose real news stories carefully



Developing a safe climate for discussing news

4. Offer reassurance
5. Encourage and value questions, but handle them safely
6. Clarify the facts and ensure balance of information



Developing a safe climate for discussing news

7. Signpost where to go for information, support and advice: www.childline.org.uk



Putting this into practice: discussing the war in Ukraine with children

A discussion framework:

- *What has happened and what is happening in response?*
- *How can we support our own wellbeing?*
- *How can we help the wellbeing of others?*

NEWS



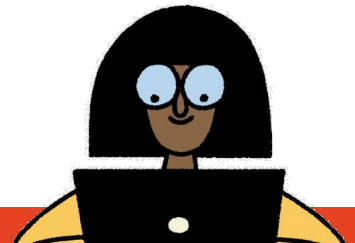
Recognising how news stories can affect emotions

Use scenarios and characters to help ‘distance’ learning

Maxi is watching a news story about a fire at a zoo. The devastating fire was started by vandals breaking into the zoo in the middle of the night – it is not yet clear if they deliberately started the fire. The zookeepers worked all night to try to move the animals to safety, but sadly over 40 animals died, some of them were rare species. Officials have warned some of the animals escaped and may still be on the loose.

How might Maxi feel after reading this story?

In what ways may people react differently?



Exploring strategies to manage feelings

Options activity: consider the best actions to take if someone were feeling upset, anxious, or frightened after reading a news story.

Pupils could write help and advice for others

Talking to
a friend

Watching
the news

Writing about
the story

Reading the same
story over and over

Telling everyone
else about the story

Doing something
else instead

Looking for advice on
the ChildLine website

Reading a
different story

Trying to
forget it

Talking to a
trusted adult

Reading more about
the same story

Something
else...



Positive stories of solidarity and generosity

'More people than ever' are offering their homes to Ukrainian refugees, says UK charity

As one million people flee Ukraine after Russia's invasion, one charity says record numbers of UK families are opening their doors to refugees.

HANNAH WESTWATER | 4 Mar 2022



Protesters in London, where the majority of host applications have been made. Image: Ilias Bartolini/Flickr

Child friendly happy news

theguardianfoundation.org/programmes/newswise/schools/child-friendly-news


www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/50434875


@GetNewsWise
#HappyNews



Where can you find suitable news stories to use in the classroom or at home as a family? Here's our selection of age-appropriate news sites offering both UK and global perspectives




▶ Watch



Happy News: Stories to make you smile

🕒 7 Mar 2022

Martin has this week's Happy News with colourful costumes at carnivals in Bolivia and New Orleans and Thailand's oldest sprinter.

Strange News - Time for a little weird!

Comic Relief: Jordan North completes epic rowing challenge

Your Planet: Environmental news from around the world


NewsWise @GetNewsWise · Feb 25
...

Looking at some [#happynews](#) is one strategy to help if you're feeling overwhelmed by distressing news. Here's our selection for this week: 16-year-old Rameshbabu Pragganandhaa from India has beaten the chess world champion "I'm just really happy" he said



npr.org

A 16-year-old from India has beaten world chess champion Magnus C...
"I'm just really happy," Rameshbabu Pragganandhaa said. He is the youngest person to defeat Carlsen since the Norwegian became world...

**Why take a critical
literacy approach to
exploring news in the
classroom?**



A critical literacy approach

News
Wise

- **Active readers** not passive absorbers of information
- Asks **critical questions** & explores how **texts are constructed**: *author intention + motivation, representation, bias, reliability, points of view*

The great menopause goldrush
Inside a £450bn industry

Taylor v Damon The tale of the tape in pop's songwriting spat

The Guardian For 200 years
Today's special offer: 10p

PM's peril: report looms as police step in over parties

● Criminal investigation into events at No 10 seen as a 'different ballgame'

● Johnson faces fraught 48 hours as Gray findings expected to be published

US seeks to blunt Putin threat over gas supplies

Johnson faces 'tough' day

DAILY EXPRESS
CAMPAIGNING NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

NEW PLEDGE TO DISRAINE
We'll send troops if Russia invades

TEN-MINUTE DAILY STROLL CAN HELP YOU LIVE LONGER

As report into Downing Street debacle is imminent, Boris backs police probe

YES PM, WE ALL WANT 'LINE DRAWN UNDER' PARTYGATE

Feud what feud? says TV Holly

THE TIMES
Wednesday 20 January 2022 | 10p

How to improve nation's schools

Britain readies troops and warns Putin of tough sanctions

Johnson faces police interview over parties

Revamp of education would bring £125bn boost

Daily Mail
Wednesday 20 January 2022 | 10p

As Putin taunts West with terrifying military displays, Westminster's convulsed over whether PM's birthday cake broke Covid rules. Now, astonishingly, the Met's launched an investigation that may take months. Behold...

A NATION THAT'S LOST ALL SENSE OF PROPORTION

SENATOR Tories lost sight of perspective over the partygate row as police launched a formal probe

This is really important!

News
Wise

News > World > Europe

'Unparalleled threats': Anti-vaxxer movement threatens a new wave of extremism

As police foil a string of anti-vaxxer plots across Europe, there lead to violence, reports **Ahmed**



THE UK'S INDEPENDENT
FACT CHECKING CHARITY

HEALTH / CORONAVIRUS

Tweet claiming three child deaths from vaccines in Australia is fake

25 JANUARY 2022

WHAT WAS CLAIMED

There have been three deaths linked to Covid-19 children in

OUR VERDICT

There is no evidence for this. The tweet claiming this is fake, purporting to be from an Australian health official. The New South Wales health ministry has said the information in the tweet is incorrect.

Full Fact

[Home](#) / [Health](#) / [Coronavirus](#)

5G is not accelerating the spread of the new coronavirus

31st Mar 2020

Claim

5G WiFi networks could be responsible for the rapid spread of the new coronavirus.

Conclusion

This is not true. There is no evidence that 5G WiFi networks are linked to coronavirus.

SHARK SPOTTED SWIMMING DOWN FLOODED STREET IN TEXAS AFTER HURRICANE HARVEY



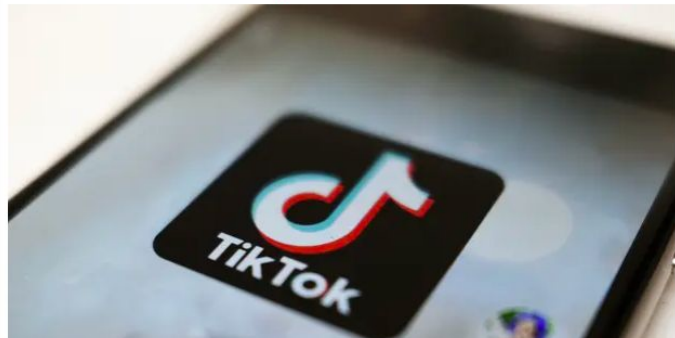
Jason Michael



TikTok algorithm directs users to fake news about Ukraine war, study says

Scrolling curated For You Page exposes users to disinformation within 40 minutes, investigation by NewsGuard suggests

● **Russia-Ukraine war: latest updates**



This is really important!

- Only **2%** of children have the **critical literacy skills** they need to tell if a news story is real or fake.
- **Half of children are worried** about not being able to spot fake news.
- **Two-thirds of teachers** believe fake news is having a harmful effect on children's well-being.
- **Half of parents** are worried about the impact of fake news and misinformation on their children's lives and don't think their children have the skills they need to spot it.
(National literacy Trust: 2018, 2019)



Why do we need to support children to critically navigate the online world of information?

8-11s

- 60% own a smartphone
- 95% use video sharing platforms (TikTok, YouTube)
- 64% use social media apps/sites/ 60% have their own profile
- 84% use messaging apps/sites

Ofcom Children & parents: media use and attitudes report 2022

12-15s

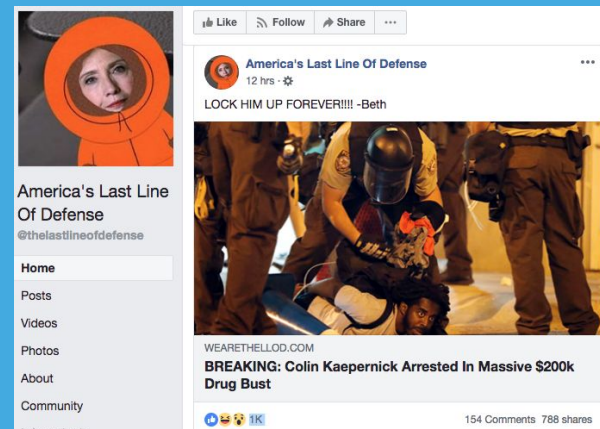
- 97% own a smartphone
- 98% use video sharing platforms (TikTok, YouTube)
- 91% use social media apps/sites/ 60% have their own profile
- 97% use messaging apps/sites

Fake or real? Critically questioning online information



What is fake news? Why does it exist?

- Entertainment - eg The Daily Mash, The Onion
- Clickbait - eg World News Daily Report
- Deliberate propaganda - eg Breitbart, Natural News



WOMAN ARRESTED FOR TRAINING SQUIRRELS TO ATTACK HER EX-BOYFRIEND



**FOR
REAL**



FAKE

**News.
wise**

Spotting fake news: question the source

WHEN READING THE NEWS...

STOP

BEFORE YOU

- ❶ **TRUST**
- ❷ **SHARE**
- ❸ **REACT**

MAKE SURE YOU...

QUESTION

- Who reported the story? Have you heard of them before? Is it somewhere you trust?
- How do they describe themselves? Do they say they are a news company or journalist?
- What other stories have they shared? Do they seem believable?
- Does the webpage look normal?
- Does the website address look normal?
- Is the writing formal, with correct spellings and punctuation?
- Does the headline match what the report is actually about?

CHECK

When you search for a news story:

- The same story is reported by other news companies you have heard of.

When you look at a report:

- The report uses a real photograph that shows the event, with a caption and credit?
- There are quotes from real sources
- The report includes different sides of the story.
- The reporter is not just telling you their own opinion about what has happened.
- The facts are supported by evidence (such as quotes, images or statistics).

DECIDE

- I trust this news report
- I am going to share this report
- I am going to tell people that I think it is true
- I am going to find out more about this story

or

- I do not trust this report
- I am not going to share it
- I am going to tell people that it is not real
- I am going to tell people that it is biased
- I am going to find out the truth about this story

News WISE

theguardian.com/newswise

WHEN READING THE NEWS...

STOP QUESTION CHECK DECIDE

News WISE

YOU'RE NOT REAL

theguardian.com/newswise

Trusted sources



CLUES!

EXAMPLES OF WELL KNOWN AND TRUSTED NEWS COMPANIES



FirstNews
the weekly newspaper for young people

itv NEWS

BBC NEWS

newsround

INDEPENDENT

sky news

METRO

THE DAY
NEWS TO OPEN MINDS

The Guardian

THE WEEK Junior

The Telegraph

FACT-CHECKING SITES

Snopes

FULL FACT

BBC reality check

HOAX-SLAYER

Search 102.9 The Buzz...

Woman Arrested for Training Squirrels to Attack Her Ex

Nashville, TN, United States / 102.9 The Buzz

Hayley St. John

April 03, 2017 08:39 pm



I've considered arson... I've considered castration... but I must have been thinking through this entirely, entirely wrong.

I can see what he loved about her. Must've been her beautiful smile.

This is Janice. 45. Former circus animal trainer from Detroit (no, literally). I don't know what you'd call her other than a squirrel whisperer for all the wrong reasons. She was recently arrested for training squirrels to attack her 51-year-old ex, and it worked. The dude even ended up losing a couple fingers and part of his manhood from it.

Poor dude had no idea why he'd suddenly get attacked by squirrels until then, he saw her...



FAKE



**AWOLNATION
Sail**

17 minutes ago



Breaking Benjamin

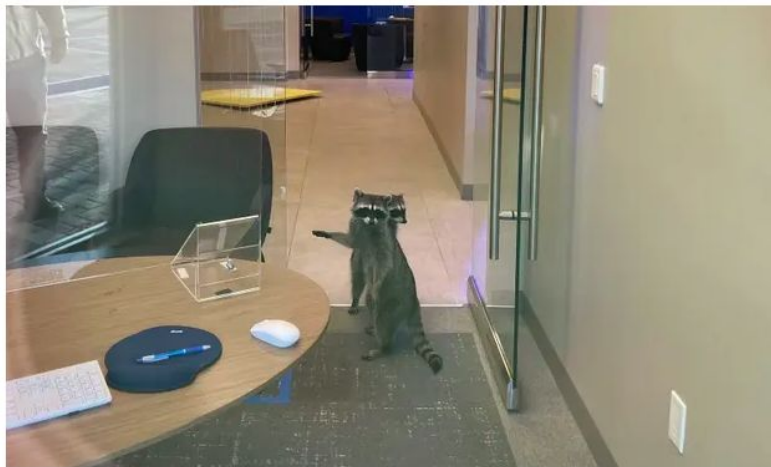
Hand over the trash: raccoons break into California bank

Pair were noticed causing havoc inside bank by customer withdrawing money outside the building

Helen Sullivan

@helenrsullivan

Thu 22 Oct 2020 03.21 BST



📷 The raccoons messed up papers and knocked a computer over during their bank break-in in California. Photograph: Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA (PHS/SPCA)



FOR REAL

Check the coverage

WHEN READING THE NEWS...

STOP

BEFORE YOU

- ❶ **TRUST**
- ❷ **SHARE**
- ❸ **REACT**

MAKE SURE YOU...

QUESTION

- Who reported the story? Have you heard of them before? Is it somewhere you trust?
- How do they describe themselves? Do they say they are a news company or journalist?
- What other stories have they shared? Do they seem believable?
- Does the webpage look normal?
- Does the website address look normal?
- Is the writing formal, with correct spellings and punctuation?
- Does the headline match what the report is actually about?

CHECK

When you search for a news story:

- The same story is reported by other news companies you have heard of.

When you look at a report:

 - The report uses a real photograph that shows the event, with a caption and credit?
 - There are quotes from real sources
 - The report includes different sides of the story.
 - The reporter is not just telling you their own opinion about what has happened.
 - The facts are supported by evidence (such as quotes, images or statistics).

DECIDE

 - I trust this news report
 - I am going to share this report
 - I am going to tell people that I think it is true
 - I am going to find out more about this story

or

 - I do not trust this report
 - I am not going to share it
 - I am going to tell people that it is not real
 - I am going to tell people that it is biased
 - I am going to find out the truth about this story

News WISE

theguardian.com/newswise

WHEN READING THE NEWS...

STOP QUESTION CHECK DECIDE

News WISE

theguardian.com/newswise

News WISE

Check the
coverage:
useful
vocab



WORDS AND PHRASES THAT
SHOW IT MIGHT NOT BE REAL



FAKE

HOAX

PARODY

FACT-CHECK

FICTICIOUS

FALSE

NO, THIS DID NOT HAPPEN!



News.
WISE

What is your gut reaction?



FAKE



**FOR
REAL**

HEALTH

Mar 19, 2021

By Alexandra Pauly

4,458 Hypes

SHARE THIS ARTICLE

CALIFORNIA THEME PARKS BAN SCREAMING ON ROLLER COASTERS

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Anne Nygard/Unsplash

**News
wise**



FAKE

california theme park bans screaming

× | 🔊 | 🔍

[All](#) | [Images](#) | [News](#) | [Shopping](#) | [Videos](#) | [More](#) | [Tools](#)

About 5,690,000 results (0.58 seconds)

<https://www.poynter.org> › [tfcn](#) › [no-california-theme-p...](#) ⋮

No, California theme parks aren't banning screaming on rides ...

Claim: California theme parks will ban screaming from rides

[Fact check by Poynter: Not Legit](#)

[Feedback](#)

<https://www.usatoday.com> › [factcheck](#) › [2021/03/24](#) › [f...](#) ⋮

Fact check: California rollercoaster riders are not banned

Claim: California amusement parks are banning screaming on thrill rides to prevent the spread of COVID-19

Claimed by: social media users

[Fact check by USA Today: False](#)

[Feedback](#)

Italian artist sells ‘invisible’ sculpture for more than £12,000

The sculpture doesn't physically exist, artist claims, 'it's in the mind of the creator'

Peony Hirwani • Friday 04 June 2021 14:32 • 2 Comments



**DOUBLE
DAILY
REWARDS
WEEK**
Starts
7th January

Because we're

18+ BeGambleAware.org



Because we're

18+ BeGambleAware.org



About 133 results (0.19 seconds)

The Independent

Italian artist sells 'invisible' sculpture for more than £12,000

An Italian artist reportedly sold an "invisible" sculpture for \$18,000 (£12,959) at an auction that took place earlier this month.

4 Jun 2021



New York Post

Artist sells invisible sculpture for over \$18K

Salvatore Garau sold his piece, entitled "Io Sono" (I am), to an unidentified buyer last month. Italian auction house Art-Rite organized the...

3 Jun 2021



Artnet News

An Italian Artist Auctioned Off an 'Invisible Sculpture' for \$18,300. It's Made Literally of Nothing

Lo Sono went up for sale in May at the Italian auction house Art-Rite. The pre-sale estimate valued the piece between €6,000-9,000, according to...

3 Jun 2021

Boston 25 News

Artist sells invisible sculpture for \$18,000

Salvatore Garau recently sold an invisible sculpture called "I Am," NPR reported. Keep in mind, the "sculpture" is not clear plastic or anything...

2 Jun 2021



DOG News

Italian Artist Sells An Invisible Sculpture For \$18,000! Kids ...

Now, contemporary Italian artist Salvatore Garau has managed to sell an immaterial, or imaginary, masterpiece to an anonymous buyer for an...

25 Jun 2021



Deseret News

Italian artist sold an invisible sculpture for \$18k, his third masterpiece

Salvatore Garau just sold his invisible sculpture for over \$18,000, which is nothing more than empty...



Artist sells for over \$18,000

Salvatore Garau sold for about \$18,300 at an Italian auction. Salvatore Garau's sculpture, which he said does not...




**FOR
REAL**

How can you do this offline?

News.
WISE

**WOMEN IN IRAN SNEAK
INTO FOOTBALL MATCH
DRESSED AS MEN**

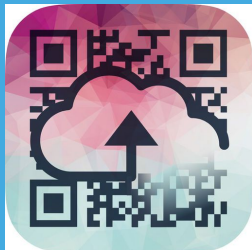


**FOR
REAL**

**WORLD'S OLDEST TREE CUT
DOWN IN AMAZON RAINFOREST**



FAKE



Explore how pictures can be manipulated

Miscaptioning



Challenge: caption competition – what descriptions can you think of that would change the meaning of this photo?

Explore how pictures can be manipulated

Forced perspective



Reverse image search

News.
WISE

Photoshop

Google



https...ze=600,900 x

meals on wheels in canada



Pages that include matching images

Meals on wheels in Canada - Imgur

<https://imgur.com/gallery/1sUaVM7> ▼



640 × 960 - 31 May 2015 - Post with 40 votes and 8298 views. Tagged with Funny, ; Shared by biosc1. **Meals on wheels in Canada.**

Meanwhile in Canada Twitter CANADIAN MEALS ON WHEELS This Is ...

<https://me.me/.../meanwhile-in-canada-twitter-meanwhileincana-canadian-meals-on-w...> ▼



200 × 302 - 11 Aug 2018 - Meanwhile in **Canada** Twitter: @MeanwhileinCana **CANADIAN MEALS ON WHEELS** This is so funny. Saw on the internet, 4 bears chasing ...

Canadian meals on wheels | Canadian Humour Eh... | Meanwhile in ...

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/536632111842878817/> ▼



402 × 604 - This Pin was discovered by Brian Jolley. Discover (and save!) your own Pins on Pinterest.

Viral posts

Just because:

- Lots of people/people in your network have shared it;
- You have seen it lots of times;

doesn't make it true!



That



ScienceAlert is an independently run news website that covers the most important developments in the world of science and scientific research, while sharing fun, interesting information.

Our goal is to inspire, entertain, and educate knowledge-lovers worldwide, regardless of background or education level.

In a world of bad news, we think you'll find something fascinating here every time you visit, and hopefully leave feeling a little smarter than when you arrived.

Editorial values

We write in a style that makes science accessible to anyone, but we never lose our strong grounding in evidence-based knowledge - so you know you can trust the cool stories you find here.

Our team of experienced journalists are no strangers to delving deep into the method section of the study they are covering, and they readily quiz experts when a claim looks too good to be true.

We are also proud of having a pre-publication fact-checking system; our dedicated staff systematically scrutinise every original article before it goes up.

That said, we are only human. If you ever see any errors or typos, we'd love to hear from you at editor@sciencealert.com.



impossibly cute life-form started doing the rounds on social media this week,

2:02 PM · May 12, 2020 · [Twitter Web App](#)

32.3K Retweets 156.8K Likes

News.
WISE

Fact, opinion, rumour or speculation?

1

I reckon the gorilla escaped because he was angry at all the stupid visitors banging on the glass all day [#kumbuka](#)
[#angrygorilla](#)



2

London Zoo **has confirmed that** at 5.30pm [#Kumbuka](#) the gorilla was safely returned to his den after drinking 5 litres of squash found in the staff area
[#thirstygorilla](#) [#safeandsound](#)

3

Apparently, a huge silverback gorilla at London Zoo smashed through his den and escaped! Gorilla on the rampage!
[#kumbuka](#) [#gorillaontheloose](#)

4

I feel sorry for the gorilla. If I was in a glass cage with people staring at me all day, I would want to escape too!
[#kumbuka](#) [#animalcruelty](#)

Fact, opinion, rumour or speculation?

News.
WISE

I reckon the gorilla escaped because he was angry at all the stupid visitors banging on the glass all day #kumbuka **angry gorilla**

Apparently, a huge silverback gorilla at London Zoo smashed through his den and escaped! Gorilla on the rampage! #kumbuka **gorilla on the loose**

London Zoo **has confirmed** that at 5.30pm #kumbuka the gorilla was safely returned to his den after drinking litres of squash found in the staff area #thirstygorilla #safeandsound

I feel sorry for the gorilla. If I was in a glass cage with people staring at me all day, I would want to escape too! #kumbuka #animalcruelty



Balance and bias: analysing news writing



Balance: interrogating points of view

News.
WISE

REPORT 2: EXTINCTION REBELLION: CAMPAIGN MAKES AN IMPACT



Whose point of view can you hear?

Whose viewpoints have not been included? What might someone else think/feel about this story?

Is this a balanced article?

Why/why not?

Thousands of climate change activists have been protesting in London since Monday, blocking famous landmarks to try to force the government to take action against climate change.

Nathan, a protestor, said, “We need to do something drastic to have action!”

Laura, a retired teacher who travelled from Somerset to join the protests, said: “I am so worried about what’s happening to the planet... it is terrifying and the government have done nothing despite all the warnings, so we have to act now.”

Analysing bias

SHOCKED TEENAGER FINED £100 FOR FEEDING A CHIP TO A PIGEON



A teenager from Swansea has been fined £100 for feeding a McDonald's chip to a pigeon.

Lauren-Paige Smith, 19, was treating herself to a McDonalds for lunch, when she kindly offered one of her chips to a hungry bird.

She was immediately approached by a rude council worker who thoughtlessly issued her with a £25 fine for littering.

Animal-lover Lauren told the official that she hadn't been littering. She explained that the pigeon had eaten the whole chip and so there was no litter left on the

Lauren-Paige Smith, 19, was treating herself to a McDonalds for lunch, when she kindly offered one of her chips to a hungry bird.

She was immediately approached by a rude council worker who thoughtlessly issued her with a £25 fine for littering.

Animal-lover Lauren told the official that she hadn't been littering. She explained that the pigeon had eaten the whole chip and so there was no litter left on the ground.

However, the harsh council worker still gave her the fine.

Who do you want to defend/criticise in this story?

Why? What language has the writer used to influence you?

Activities to support interrogation of viewpoints / analysis of bias:

SCHOOL BANS HOMEWORK



Photograph: Ableimages/ Getty Images

A school in Scotland has become the first in the UK to totally ban homework. Once the ban starts, no teachers will be able to set homework for their pupils, giving the children more free time at home. The headteacher of the school said: "We have made this decision to give teachers more time to plan lessons instead of marking work."

"This is brilliant news!" said Jake, aged 10, "It means I'll be able to play Fortnite every evening and not think about school!"

Amara, aged 11, agreed: "I play football 3 evenings a week, so I didn't really have time to do my homework properly anyway. Now I don't have to bother at all!"

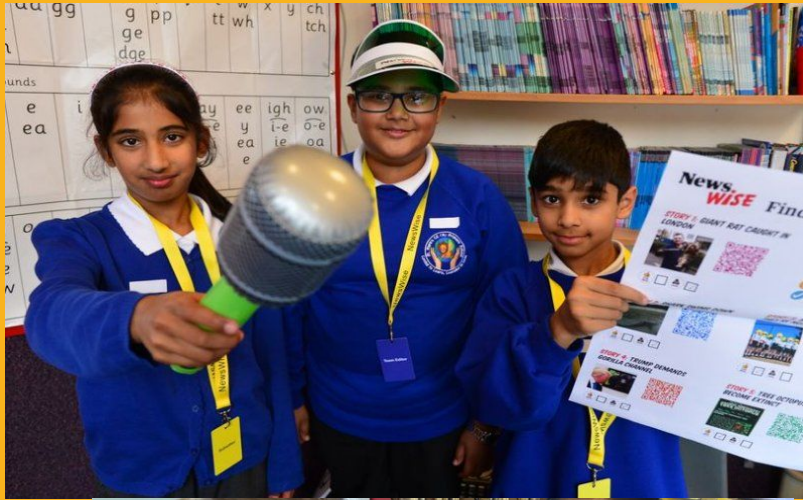
The ban will begin at the start of the autumn term.

- How else could the news story be told?
Rewrite unbalanced news reports
- Hot seating/dramatised press conferences
- Create word banks to support language analysis
- Compare headlines across news publications

Getting great writing outcomes: creating a real audience and purpose for news writing

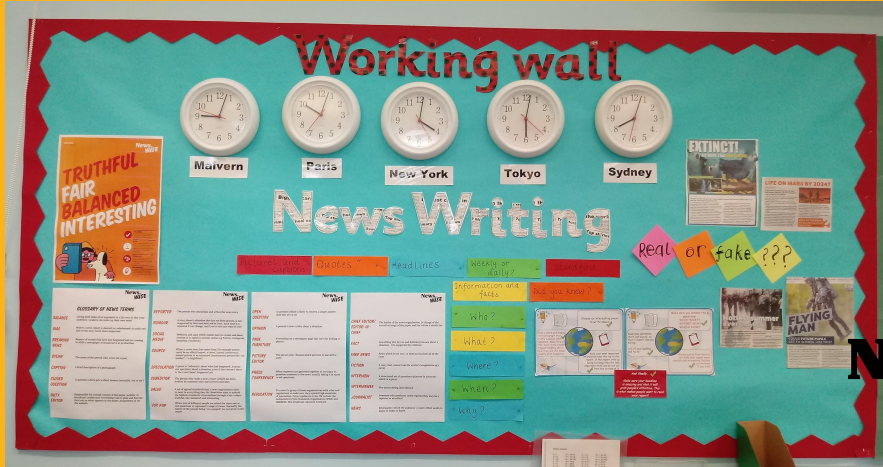


Bring the newsroom to the classroom...



New vocabulary in this theme

Chief editor	The leader of the news organisation. In charge of the overall strategy of the paper and the values it stands for
Desk editor	The person in charge of a specific section (news desk), eg national, international, sport, science. Makes decisions about what stories to cover in their section and approves reports before sending them to the subeditors
International news	News stories that are happening around the world (outside of the UK)
Journalist	Someone who works to produce the news (they may be a reporter or an editor)
Local news	News stories that are happening near to where you live, in your village, town or community
National news	News stories that are happening in the UK
News	Information which the audience / reader either needs to know or wants to know
Newsworthy	A story that is important or interesting enough to be reported
Picture editor	The person who chooses which pictures to use with a story
Reporter	The person who researches and writes the news story
Subeditor	The person who reads a news report (which has been written by someone else) and corrects mistakes. Also writes headlines and captions



**News
WISE**

Reading and discussing real news

Appropriate (fun but challenging) stories - social issues and social justice

Lesson 4
Windrush headlines & summaries

WINDRUSH HEADLINES AND SUMMARIES



30 Apr 2018
Amber Rudd quits



28 Nov 2017
'I can't eat or sleep': the woman threatened with deportation after 50 years in Britain



5 May 2018
'I'm glad we spoke out': Windrush victim who shone a light on the scandal



11 Jan 2018
Woman nearly deported after 50 years in UK wins right to remain

REPORT 1: EXTINCTION REBELLION: ROADS BLOCKED AND POLICE DISRUPTED



Thousands of climate change activists blocked roads and famous landmarks in Central London today as part of the Extinction Rebellion climate protests.

Girl, 5, fined £150 for lemonade stand

© 21 July 2017

Share

SHOCKED TEENAGER FINED £100 FOR FEEDING A CHIP TO A PIGEON



A teenager from Swansea has been fined £100 for feeding a McDonald's chip to a pigeon.

Lauren-Paige Smith, 19, was treating herself to a McDonald's for lunch, when she kindly offered one of her chips to a hungry bird.

She was immediately approached by a rude council worker who thoughtlessly issued her with a £25 fine for littering.

Animal-lover Lauren told the official that she hadn't been littering. She explained that the pigeon had eaten the whole chip and so there was no litter left on the ground.

Homeless people in Oxford threatened with £2,500 fines

City council under fire after legal notices pinned to rough sleepers' bags left in shop doorways



rough sleepers' belongings were having a detrimental effect on other people's quality of life, the council said. Photograph: Yui Mok/PA

Rough sleepers putting their possessions in shop doorways in Oxford have been threatened with fines of up to £2,500.

Boys wear skirts to school in sweltering heat to protest against 'no shorts' policy

Plastic straws: Why McDonald's and other companies are scrapping them

News
WISE

Writing news reports

STRUCTURAL FEATURES



- Inverted pyramid structure
- An introductory 5W paragraph
- (Who? What? Where? When? Why?)
- Interesting, facts in the middle of the report
- Interesting quotes
- A concluding paragraph



LAYOUT FEATURES



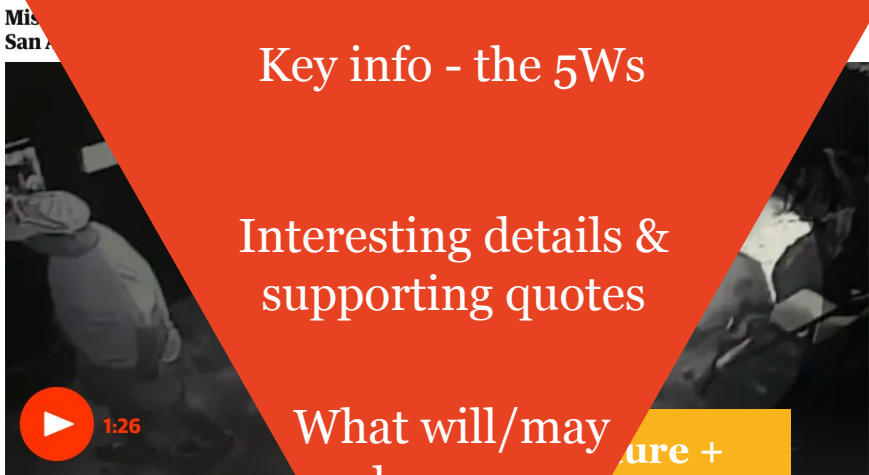
- A catchy headline
- A standfirst
- A byline
- Pictures
- Captions

LANGUAGE FEATURES



- Formal, simple language
- Third person (apart from quotes)
- Usually past tense (unless reporting about future events)
- Direct speech (for quotes)
- Reported speech
- Relative clauses (to explain who people are)

Shark abducted in pram from Texas aquarium is returned



Emma Snaith
Tue 31 Jul 2018 15.54 BST

A shark abducted from a petting tank at a Texas aquarium and smuggled out in a pram has been found and returned.

Key info - the 5Ws

Interesting details & supporting quotes

What will/may happen next

5W introduction

Formal and concise language

More details of how the situation occurred

The female grey horn shark, known as Miss Helen, was grabbed from the open pool in San Antonio aquarium by two men and a woman, then wrapped in a wet blanket.

Surveillance footage shows the suspects bundling the 40cm shark, still dripping water, into a pram before pushing it to a pickup truck and driving off from the aquarium.

Leon Valley police chief, Joseph Salvaggio, said two other suspects, a man and a woman, were being questioned in connection with the theft.

“When we got into the garage and into the house it looked like almost a mock-up of [the San Antonio aquarium],” he told told San Antonio TV station KSAT. “He knew very much what he was doing and kept that animal alive.”

Salvaggio said he believed the shark had been stolen to replace one in the suspect’s collection that had died, rather than to be sold on.

The horn shark is native to the California coast and can grow to one metre in length. It feeds off molluscs and small fish and is considered harmless to humans.

End by adding additional context

Past tense

Third person

Short paragraphs

Relative clauses

Direct speech

Reported speech

Effective 5Ws:

Which of these opening paragraphs works best? Why?

A factory that makes plastic had a fire today and firefighters arrived early this morning to try to put it out. When they got there they were putting out the fire for several hours but the blaze continued. Later in the day they saw a “firenado”.

1

On Tuesday 7 August firefighters who were putting out a blaze at a plastics factory in Derbyshire spotted a “firenado”.

2

A “firenado” has been spotted by firefighters tackling a plastics blaze in Derbyshire today.

3

Successes and next steps?

It all began on Tuesday afternoon at 5.30pm behind the equipment shed. On the field lay a small, shiny UFO. To their disbelief, the teachers listened to a confusing, terrifying voicemail.

Miss Austin, Year 5 teacher, said that she felt very nervous and worried after discovering the crash. Miss Taylor, Year 6 teacher, added, "I couldn't believe what I saw. I'm still in shock!"


88 mysterious UFO spotted in Claytons School
Leaving Teachers Speechless ✓

On Tuesday, 13th November there was an unexpected UFO crash at Claytons School. The teachers, speechless to their disbelief, the teachers listened to a confusing voicemail that they received after the loud crash. ✓

It all began on Tuesday afternoon at 5:30 pm behind the equipment shed. On the field lay a small UFO. Miss Austin, the Year 5 teacher, said that she felt nervous and worried after she heard the crash. Miss Taylor (a year 6 teacher) was a witness. Miss Taylor added "I think it is in the school, waiting for the right time." ✓

The Year 5 teachers couldn't quite figure out what the voice message said but one thing that was clear was "I am here to takeover the teachers." While the teachers were investigating, they saw a man putting caution tape around the UFO, trying not to touch it. As far as the news crew knew it could cause a disaster. ✓

The children (from Claytons) have also investigated and found some more information. If you have any further information please contact 07264185399. ✓



Children investigating the UFO crash.

Successes and next steps?

Remodelled: A UFO landed in a school playground on Tuesday afternoon. Teachers discovered that the alien landing was accompanied by a message left on the school voicemail.

Not grasped the formal, concise tone of reporting.
Too informal - ‘narrative’ sounding with use of adverbials and noun phrases (redundant and descriptive words).

Miss Austin, Year 5 teacher, said that she felt very nervous and worried after discovering the crash. Miss Taylor, Year 6 teacher, added, “I couldn’t believe what I saw. I’m still in shock!”

Strong grasp of relative clauses, reported and direct speech including punctuation and ‘newsy’ verbs.

Why?

- Better news writing outcomes
- Empowering
- Respecting others opinions
- Understanding the world
- Family engagement
- Pupil voice



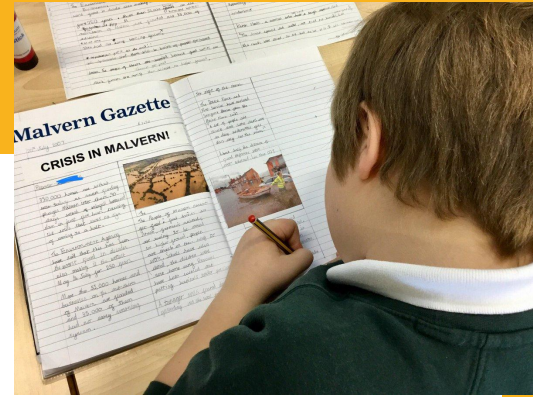
Examples of real news...

School or community issue:

- Dangerous crossing outside school
 - *Interviewed parents & pupils*
- Local vandalism - *interviewed PCSOs, headteacher, parents*
- A school trip to London - *interviewed teachers, pupils*

Investigation of a current national or social issue:

- Teenagers' sugar consumption - *interviewed Y10s*
- Air pollution - *interviewed parents, pupils, teachers, Islington Council*



Empowering pupils to have a voice

Give pupils the chance to identify and discuss potential stories themselves - increased ownership and motivation



In role as chief editor:

- Ask pupils to write down suggestions for stories then select one that you think should be reported
- Offer a range of stories from which pupils can choose.

Creating a real audience...

- School newspaper
- Upload to your school website
- Perform a news bulletin in assembly
- Invite in parents
- Invite a real journalist in to give feedback



“It was fun finding out what was happening in my local area and being able to tell my family.”

“I loved how we worked together and how people are actually going to read OUR news story!”

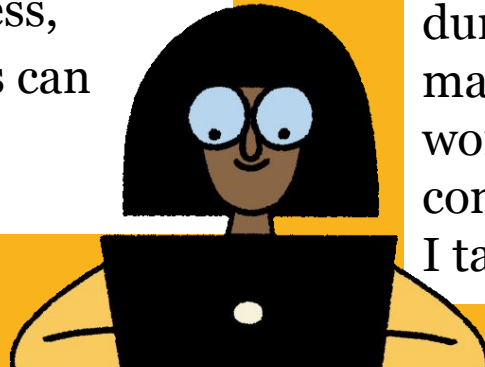
Impact of the programme : real news in the classroom

“The classes were so affected by the Windrush stories that they wanted to know more ... I have rarely seen children so engaged. They saw the power of the media in changing minds. They realised that they aren't powerless, that news organisations can change governments' minds.”

“One pupil said to me [the workshop] was the best day ever as they learnt new skills that they can use to teach their parents about the news as they get their news from social media.”

“NewsWise also produced the best writing I received from my class during the whole academic year! It may sound simple but using real world news to bring it to life and add context really revolutionised the way I taught the news.”

**News.
Wise**



Thank you!

theguardianfoundation.org/programmes/newswise

theguardianfoundation.org/programmes/newswise/schools/unit-of-work

Twitter: @GetNewsWise

newswise@theguardianfoundation.org

Survey: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/NWwebY4/>

