



HOW TO ACCESS YOUR ACTIVITY SHEETS

Your school has unlimited access to each week's Activity Sheets and a full archive of previous activities. Any number of teachers at your school can register to access them, and each will need to follow the below instructions:

REGISTERING FOR THE FIRST TIME

- 1** Visit schools.firstnews.co.uk/register
- 2** Enter your school's First News Education ID and click 'Confirm'
- 3** Enter your details in the form and click 'Complete'
- 4** Invite colleagues at your school who will also be using Activity Sheets
- 5** You will be automatically logged in once you have registered

Your school's First News Education ID can be found in your welcome pack, as well as in the email you received containing details about your package.

ACCESSING ACTIVITY SHEETS WEEKLY

- 1** To log in, visit schools.firstnews.co.uk/login
- 2** Enter your email address and password, tick the security box and click 'Login'
- 3** Bookmark these pages in your browser for quick access each week:
 - This week's Activity Sheets: schools.firstnews.co.uk/resources
 - Activity Sheet Archive: schools.firstnews.co.uk/resource-archive

Remember, all teachers in your school have unlimited access to download weekly Activity Sheets. Invite them to register at schools.firstnews.co.uk/register using your school's First News Education ID.

If you have any questions, please email education@firstnews.co.uk or call (+44) 01371 851 898, weekdays 9.00am to 5.00pm.

COMPREHENSIONS

News reports are ideal for short, focused comprehension or discussion activities. Like authors, journalists play with language, so news 'stories' are rich nuggets of text to investigate. Engaging, thought-provoking stories from the newspaper are selected for the news comprehension activities, helping children unpack and understand the often complex ideas and events in a news story.

LEARNING UNDERTAKEN:

- Builds topical knowledge and understanding of the wider world outside the classroom: linking to other subjects across the curriculum
- Enhances reading comprehension skills: developing vocabulary in context; identifying facts and opinions; explaining and summarising information; inferring ideas and finding evidence; identifying how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning; identifying themes; understanding writer's intent

LOWER KS2: Four Stories

Four stories are selected from the week's newspaper and simplified for Lower KS2 readers. There is a set of questions for each story to enable discussion, ensure understanding and to develop personal ideas and opinions.



LEVEL 1
FOUR
STORIES

UPPER KS2: Look Closer

The set of in-depth discussion questions scaffold pupils' understanding and encourage deeper thinking. Answers are intended to provide a quick reference guide: Suggestions are given for the 'Expected response' or 'Starting point' that pupils could give. The 'Development' then gives more in-depth ideas that students can work towards as they develop their reading comprehension skills towards the end of Year 6.



LEVEL 2
LOOK
CLOSER

KS3: Article Analysis

Questions are divided into four sections: A) Find and explain the facts; B) Deduce and infer information; C) Analyse the writing and D) Writing Task. Answers are intended to provide a quick reference guide: Suggestions are given for a starting point for responses that students would be expected to give at the start of KS3. Further suggestions then give fuller, more developed responses that students will work towards by the end of KS3, in preparation for the non-fiction elements of GCSE English language.



LEVEL 3
ARTICLE
ANALYSIS

DEBATES

News is one of the greatest igniters of debate among children and adults alike. Being able to express one's voice and listen to those of others is an essential skill at every stage of our lives. Schools across the UK have built a culture of communication by using First News Education's debate topics as a basis for teaching oracy through classroom discussion, to successfully develop essential speech and communication skills. When pupils have access to reliable facts and context, they are given a platform to understand an issue in-depth, build their points of view and appreciate different perspectives from fellow pupils.

LEARNING UNDERTAKEN

Develops:

- Understanding of global issues
- Confidence in expressing views and forming reasoned, informed opinions
- In-depth understanding of a topic and personal opinions
- Skills of listening to, appreciating and respecting other points of view

ACTIVITY SHEETS KS3 News Debate

In the Activity Sheets, the News Debate is provided as a Level 3 resource on a fortnightly basis.



LEVEL 3
ARTICLE
ANALYSIS

iHUB News Debates

Within the iHub, the background information is differentiated for Level 1, 2 and 3 readers, with all pupils voting in the same poll. Debate poll results are given both for your school and all schools in the iHub. Debate comments can be read only by pupils within your school, and can be moderated by the teacher.

If your school does not have access to the iHub, start your free 30-day trial today at schools.firstnews.co.uk/ihub-trial



LEVEL 1
FOUR
STORIES



LEVEL 2
LOOK
CLOSER



LEVEL 3
ARTICLE
ANALYSIS



ENHANCE PERSUASIVE
LANGUAGE SKILLS



BUILD IN-DEPTH
UNDERSTANDING



VOICE OPINIONS
ARTICULATLY



DEVELOP REASONING
TO SUPPORT VIEWS



GROW CONFIDENCE
IN SPEAKING



LISTEN TO AND
RESPECT OTHERS

VOCABULARY PUZZLES

The news puzzles are glossary building activities to develop pupils' vocabulary and aid their understanding of the news stories. Stories are selected from different sections of the newspaper. Key words and phrases from the article are then explored either as definitions in crossword clues or in missing word and matching-meaning puzzles.

LEARNING UNDERTAKEN:

- Builds topical knowledge and understanding of the wider world outside the classroom
- Develops understanding of tricky and subject-specific vocabulary in the context of a topical news story

LOWER KS2: News Puzzle (orange)

A simplified version of a story from the week's newspaper is provided for Lower Key Stage 2 readers. The crossword clues provide definitions of eight words in the news story, which pupils identify to complete the puzzle.

LEVEL 1
FOUR
STORIES

UPPER KS2: News Puzzle (green)

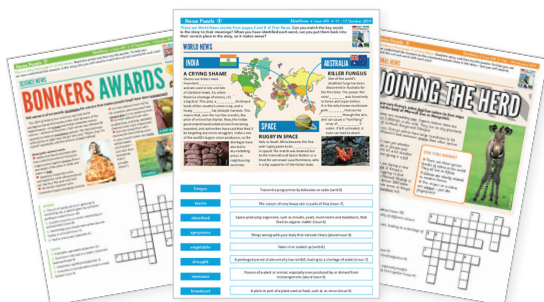
Eight words or phrases from a news article are analysed to develop pupils' vocabulary and understanding of the story.

LEVEL 2
LOOK
CLOSER

KS3: News Puzzle (blue)

A challenging puzzle looking at the definition of words and specialist vocabulary in stories in the news.

LEVEL 3
ARTICLE
ANALYSIS



QUIZZES

The quizzes focus children to find educationally interesting information from different sections of the week's newspaper. Pupils will also develop their understanding of the traditions and structure of a newspaper as they identify in which section they are most likely to find the answer to the quiz question. These work well as timed activities with pupils competing to complete the quiz in the fastest time, or to beat their own time from the previous week. A copy of First News is needed to complete the quizzes.

LEARNING UNDERTAKEN:

- Builds topical knowledge and understanding of the wider world outside the classroom
- Develops scanning skills to retrieve information
- Develops understanding of newspaper traditions, for example, newspaper report sections and the role of a lead paragraph in a news report

LOWER KS2: Mystery News

Study and discuss the four images from the newspaper to identify key vocabulary. Predict what the story might be, then hunt for it in the newspaper to find out the real story.

Whole page landscape images are also provided for interactive whiteboards.

LEVEL 1
FOUR
STORIES

UPPER KS2: News & Pictures

Ten questions and eight pictures each week. Pupils use their knowledge of newspaper sections and scanning skills to locate the relevant topical information quickly. Answers provided.

LEVEL 2
LOOK
CLOSER

KS3: In the Know

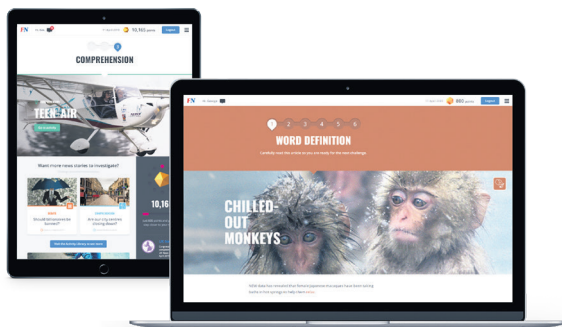
A challenging quiz featuring regular sections: words, pictures, places, people, objects and statistics. Ensures pupils read copies of the newspaper thoroughly, from cover to cover! Answers provided.

LEVEL 3
ARTICLE
ANALYSIS



iHUB

THE BETT AWARD-WINNING, INTERACTIVE NEWS AND LITERACY PLATFORM



For an interactive learning experience, explore the iHub's online comprehensions, vocabulary puzzles, polls and debates with your pupils.

Enjoy a **FREE 30-day trial**, visit schools.firstnews.co.uk/ihub-trial



DIFFERENTIATED ACTIVITIES
automatically tailored to students' reading levels



INTERACTIVE INTERFACE
to engage students, driving interest and focus



FLEXIBILITY
to automatically assign or select activities



TIME-SAVING
automatic marking of multiple-choice questions



MOTIVATES & REWARDS
through earning points and badges for progress



HOMEWORK OPTION
to encourage news-based learning out of the classroom



REPORTING DASHBOARD
to monitor the progress of individuals and classes

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