# Unit 3: Deciding What's News

Content Area: **ELA**
Course(s): **Sample Course, Journalism 1**
Time Period: **JanFeb**
Length: **4-6 Weeks; Grades 11-12**
Status: **Published**

## Title Section

# Department of Curriculum and Instruction

**Belleville Public Schools**

**Curriculum Guide**

# Journalism 1: Grades 11 -12

# Unit 3: Deciding What's News

**Belleville Board of Education**

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## Unit Overview

Unit 3: Deciding What's News focuses on how news is developed and produced by editors and journalists who understand its qualities and elements. Students will explore the elements of a news story and the difference between hard and soft news stories. The unit will include the various types of news stories, how to distinguish them from one another and each of their significance. The unit will also include the elements of a news story, how to research for news articles, the importance of choosing sources, and how certain stories impact different people of diverse cultural backgrounds. Students will learn news judgment and other factors that influence news choice.

## Enduring Understanding

1. Analyzing text is important in order to understand the writer's tone and purpose.
2. Understanding the role of journalists helps in identifying their impact on society.
3. Conducting critical analyses of print, radio, television and digital media creates well-rounded and informed citizens.

## Essential Questions

- How can you define news?
- Where do journalists find the news?

- What elements make a story newsworthy?
- How does a journalist distinguish between acceptable and unacceptable sources?
- Why are sources important to write an effective story?
- How is the truth discovered and verified?

## Exit Skills

- Summarize what elements make a story newsworthy
- Identify hard news and soft news
- Make decisions on what storys are worthy of print and sharing
- Research topics to write coherent and substantial news stories
- Write articles in a variety of styles for various purposes and specific audiences

## New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS-S)

| | |
|---|---|
| LA.RI.9-10.1 | Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, (e.g., via discussion, written response, etc.) and make relevant connections, to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain. |
| LA.RI.9-10.2 | Determine a central idea of a text and analyze how it is developed and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text. |
| LA.RI.9-10.3 | Analyze how the author unfolds an analysis or series of ideas or events, including the order in which the points are made, how they are introduced and developed, and the connections that are drawn between them. |
| LA.RI.9-10.4 | Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language of a court opinion differs from that of a newspaper). |
| LA.RI.9-10.5 | Analyze in detail how an author's ideas or claims are developed and refined by particular sentences, paragraphs, or larger portions of a text (e.g., a section or chapter). |
| LA.RI.9-10.7 | Analyze various perspectives as presented in different mediums (e.g., a person's life story in both print and multimedia), determining which details are emphasized in each account. |
| LA.RI.9-10.8 | Describe and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is valid and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; identify false statements and reasoning. |
| LA.W.9-10.2 | Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and |

| | |
|---|---|
| | information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content. |
| LA.W.9-10.2.A | Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension. |
| LA.W.9-10.2.B | Develop the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic. |
| LA.W.9-10.2.C | Use appropriate and varied transitions to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts. |
| LA.W.9-10.2.D | Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic. |
| LA.W.9-10.2.E | Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g., formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing. |
| LA.W.9-10.2.F | Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic). |

## Interdisciplinary Connections

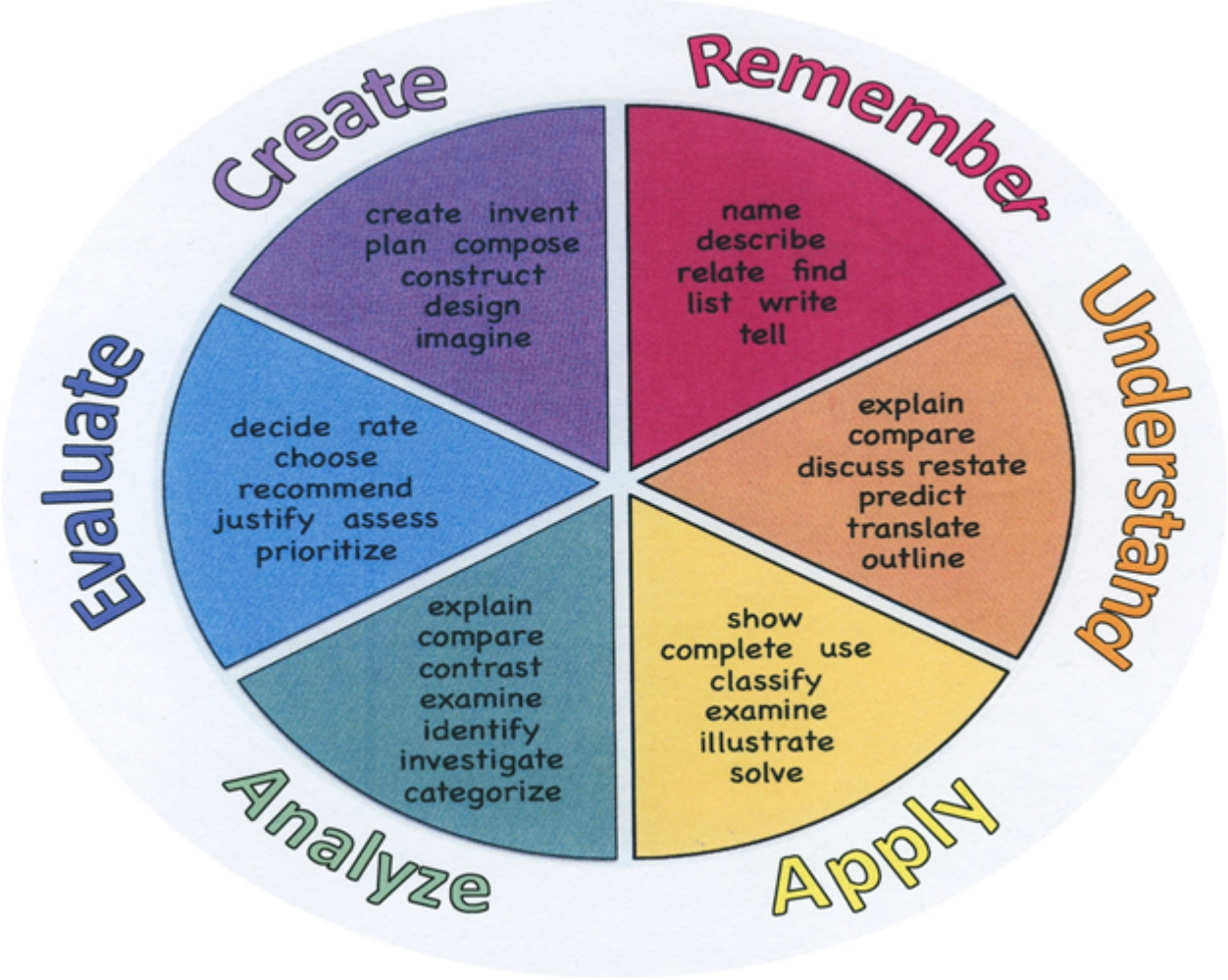
| | |
|---|---|
| TECH.8.1.12 | Educational Technology: All students will use digital tools to access, manage, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to solve problems individually and collaborate and to create and communicate knowledge. |
| TECH.8.1.12.A.CS1 | Understand and use technology systems. |
| TECH.8.1.12.A.CS2 | Select and use applications effectively and productively. |

## Learning Objectives

- Understand what makes a story newsworthy
- Understand that news comes in a variety of formats and styles for different audiences
- Determine the nature of different news sources
- Discuss the importance of truth and accuracy in news
- Understand the six criteria for news
- Analyze a news story for newsworthiness
- Define criteria for news (such as prominence, proximity, timeliness, oddity/uniqueness, consequence, human interest)

| Remember | Understand | Apply | Analyze | Evaluate | Create |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Choose | Classify | Choose | Categorize | Appraise | Combine |
| Describe | Defend | Dramatize | Classify | Judge | Compose |
| Define | Demonstrate | Explain | Compare | Criticize | Construct |
| Label | Distinguish | Generalize | Differentiate | Defend | Design |
| List | Explain | Judge | Distinguish | Compare | Develop |
| Locate | Express | Organize | Identify | Assess | Formulate |
| Match | Extend | Paint | Infer | Conclude | Hypothesize |
| Memorize | Give Examples | Prepare | Point out | Contrast | Invent |
| Name | Illustrate | Produce | Select | Critique | Make |
| Omit | Indicate | Select | Subdivide | Determine | Originate |
| Recite | Interrelate | Show | Survey | Grade | Organize |
| Select | Interpret | Sketch | Arrange | Justify | Plan |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| State | Infer | Solve | Breakdown | Measure | Produce |
| Count | Match | Use | Combine | Rank | Role Play |
| Draw | Paraphrase | Add | Detect | Rate | Drive |
| Outline | Represent | Calculate | Diagram | Support | Devise |
| Point | Restate | Change | Discriminate | Test | Generate |
| Quote | Rewrite | Classify | Illustrate | | Integrate |
| Recall | Select | Complete | Outline | | Prescribe |
| Recognize | Show | Compute | Point out | | Propose |
| Repeat | Summarize | Discover | Separate | | Reconstruct |
| Reproduce | Tell | Divide | | | Revise |
| | Translate | Examine | | | Rewrite |
| | Associate | Graph | | | Transform |
| | Compute | Interpolate | | | |
| | Convert | Manipulate | | | |
| | Discuss | Modify | | | |
| | Estimate | Operate | | | |
| | Extrapolate | Subtract | | | |
| | Generalize | | | | |
| | Predict | | | | |



## Suggested Activities & Best Practices

- Conducting surveys
- News judgment analysis
- Chapter 3 test
- Create a newspaper staff

## Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)

Class and school surveys - formative assessment

Unit test - summative assessment

Create a newspaper staff- alternative assessment

- Admit Tickets
- Anticipation Guide
- Common Benchmarks
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- DBQ's
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Learning Center Activities
- Multimedia Reports
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline
- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar

- Study Guide
- Surveys
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Top 10 List
- Unit review/Test prep
- Unit tests
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

## Primary Resources & Materials

**Textbooks:**

*Journalism Today*

*Introduction to Journalism*

*Exploring Journalism and the Media*

## Ancillary Resources

www.youtube.com

www.newseum.org

*The Wall Street Journal*

*The New York Times*

*The Star Ledger*

## Technology Infusion

OnCourse

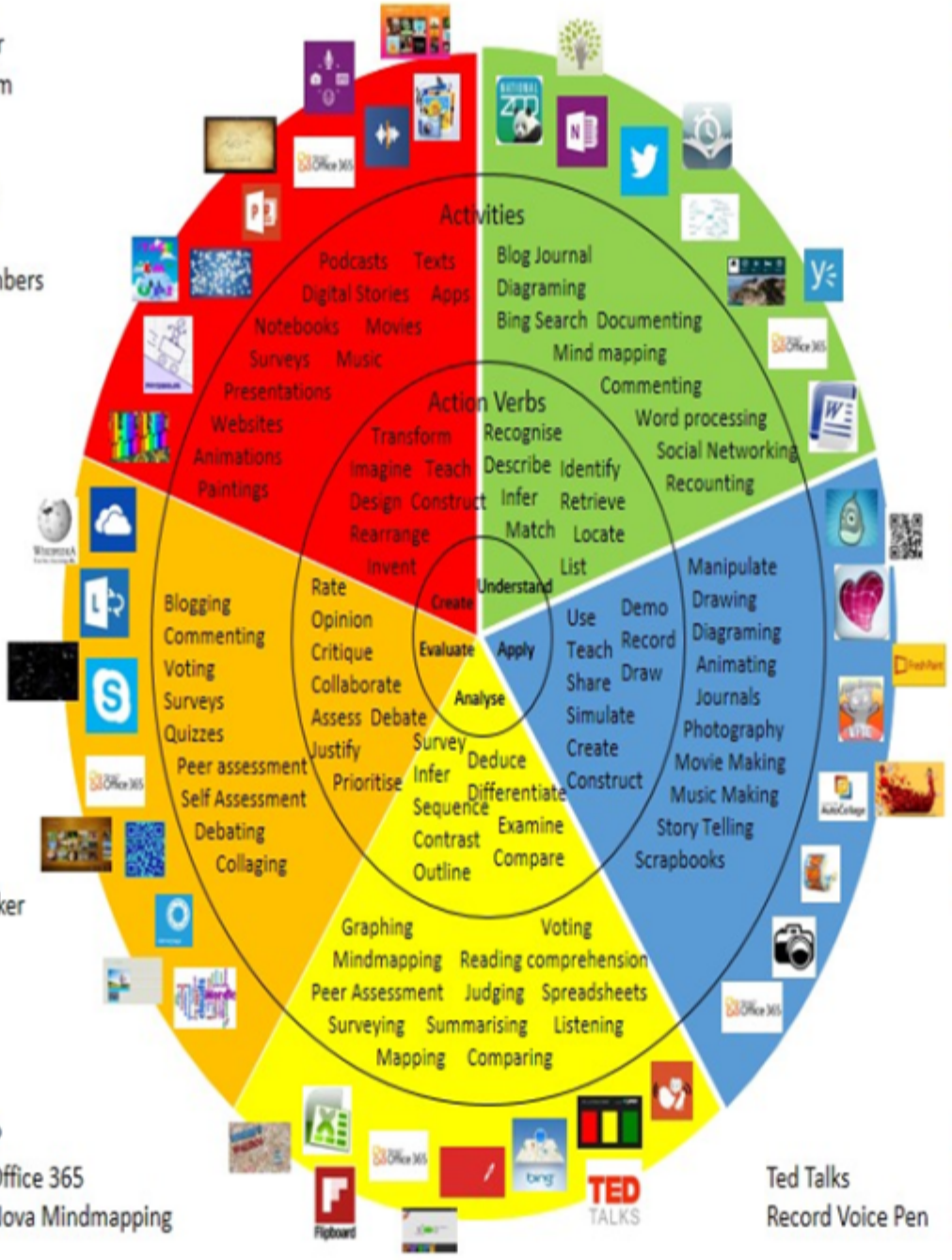
Google Chromebooks

SMART TV

# Win 8.1 Apps/Tools Pedagogy Wheel

Podcasts
Photostory 3
Kid Story Builder
Music Maker Jam
Paint A Story
Office 365
MS PowerPoint
Stack 'Em Up
NqSquared Numbers
Physamajig
Xylophone 8

Wikipedia
Skydrive
Lync
SkyMap
Skype
Office 365
Puzzle Touch
Easy QR
Memorylage
Life Moments
Word Cloud Maker




Where's Waldo?
MS Excel Office 365
Flipboard Nova Mindmapping

Ted Talks
Record Voice Pen

Originally taken from http://www.coetail.com/vzimmer/files/2013/02/iPadagogy-Wheel.001.jpg
And adapted for Windows 8.1 devices by Charlotte Beckhurst @CharBeckhurst

## Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology

**Key SUBJECTS AND 21st CENTURY THEMES**

- English, reading or language arts
- History
- Government and Civics

## 21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes

- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

| | |
|---|---|
| LA.RL.9-10.5 | Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it (e.g., parallel plots), and manipulate time (e.g., pacing, flashbacks) create specific effects (e.g., mystery, tension, or surprise). |
| LA.RL.9-10.6 | Analyze a particular point of view or cultural experience reflected in a work of literature from outside the United States, drawing on a wide reading of world literature. |
| TECH.8.1.12 | Educational Technology: All students will use digital tools to access, manage, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to solve problems individually and collaborate and to create and communicate knowledge. |

## 21st Century Skills

- Civic Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Health Literacy

## Differentiation

Differentiations:

- Small group instruction
- Small group assignments
- Extra time to complete assignments
- Pairing oral instruction with visuals
- Repeat directions
- Study guides
- Teacher reads assessments allowed
- Rephrase written directions
- Additional time
- Preview vocabulary
- Preview content & concepts
- Behavior management plan
- Highlight text
- Student(s) work with assigned partner
- Visual presentation
- Assistive technology
- Auditory presentations

Hi-Prep Differentiations:

- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Group investigations
- Guided Reading
- Independent research and projects
- Leveled rubrics
- Multiple intelligence options
- Multiple texts
- Project-based learning
- Problem-based learning
- Tiered activities/assignments

Lo-Prep Differentiations

- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Varied journal prompts
- Varied supplemental materials

## Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)

- Modifications ad dictated in the student's IEP/504 Plan
- Additional time for skill mastery
- Behavior management plan
- Modified test/test length
- Study guides provided

- printed copy of board work/notes provided
- additional time for skill mastery
- assistive technology
- behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- check work frequently for understanding
- computer or electronic device utilizes
- extended time on tests/ quizzes
- have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- highlighted text visual presentation
- modified assignment format
- modified test content
- modified test format
- modified test length
- multi-sensory presentation
- multiple test sessions
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- Provide modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 plan
- reduced/shortened reading assignments
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- shortened assignments
- student working with an assigned partner
- teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

## English Language Learning (ELL)

- Using videos, illustrations, pictures and drawings to explain or clarify
- Providing study guides
- Decreasing amount of work presented/required

- Modifying tests

- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarif
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of workpresented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

## At Risk

- Using videos, illustrations, pictures and drawings to explain or clarify
- Providing study guides
- Decreasing amount of work presented/required
- Modifying tests

- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
- decreasing the amount of workpresented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments

- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

## Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)

- Advanced problem-solving
- Higher order, critical and creative thinking skills and discovery
- Allow students to work at faster pace

- Above grade level placement option for qualified students
- Advanced problem-solving
- Allow students to work at a faster pace
- Cluster grouping
- Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results
- Create a blog or social media page about their unit
- Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
- Debate issues with research to support arguments
- Flexible skill grouping within a class or across grade level for rigor
- Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery
- Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project
- Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and growth opportunities
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge

## Sample Lesson

Using the template below, please develop a **Sample Lesson** for the first unit only.

Unit Name:

NJSLS:

Interdisciplinary Connection:

Statement of Objective:

Anticipatory Set/Do Now:

Learning Activity:

Student Assessment/CFU's:

Materials:

21st Century Themes and Skills:

Differentiation/Modifications:

Integration of Technology: