

CURRENT EVENTS

It is very important to be aware of what is going on in the community and world around you, as these events shape our society and our daily lives. Being knowledgeable of the decisions, changes and happenings in our world allows us to be more engaged learners, and because of this, we can begin to make informed choices and take responsibility for the direction of our future.

Since it is so important to be aware of the world around you, I am asking all of my students to participate in a "Current Events Program" this school year. Below are the assignment guidelines:

- Approximately every four weeks you will be assigned a category from which you may select any current event you find from the previous week. The categories are World News, National News, Local News, Science News, Children's News, and Free Choice.
- You may use newspapers, news magazines or online articles. It must be a printed version of the news, not a televised or videotaped version.
- Read the article carefully. As you read, think about the main idea and how this news event applies to your daily life.
- Write a one to two paragraph summary of the article. This summary should state the main ideas/events and express NO opinion – just the facts. Remember to cover the 5 W's – who, what, where, when, and why if it is in narrative form (story form). If it is more technical, such as a Science article about new technology, you must include the most important facts/ideas.
- Write one additional reflection paragraph explaining what you think about the article/topic – this should be ALL opinion.
- The summary and opinion paragraphs you prepare will be delivered in class as an oral presentation lasting 2-3 minutes on your scheduled presentation date.
- On your presentation date you must also submit a copy of the article stapled to your typed summary and reflection.
- Fifth grade writing is expected on this assignment. These grades will be considered as part of writing, so be sure to hand in your best work.
- You may use the attached document to help you organize your thoughts prior to writing the summary and reflection paragraphs.
- Your work will be assessed on the following scale:

- 4 exceeds expectations
- 3 meets expectations
- 2 progressing towards expectations
- 1 needs support/experiencing difficulty
- 0 assignment not complete

Name: _____ #: _____ Date: _____

Current Events

Leadline: _____

Source: _____

Type of News: _____

Who is the article mainly about? _____

What is the main idea of the article? _____

Where is the article set? _____

When did/does the event in the article take place? _____

Why is this action occurring or why did it take place? _____

What do you think about the article? Explain why you feel this event is important: _____