**Title**

Write A News Story

**Description**  
The culminating activity for Unit 4, following completion of Story Prep Worksheet

**Summary**

Students will write an interesting, informative and factual news story based on their own reporting.

**Objectives**

* Students will gather information through interviewing appropriate sources and conducting research on the Internet as necessary.
* Students will use the facts and quotes they have gathered to write a news story.

**Common Core State Standards**

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| CCSS.ELA-Literacy.WHST.11-12.4 | Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. |
| CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.5 | Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. |
| CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.8 | Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation. |
| CCSS.ELA-Literacy.WHST.11-12.10 | Write routinely over extended time frames (time for reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences. |
| CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.1d | Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing. |
| CCSS.ELA-Literacy.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. |
| CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.4 | Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. |
| CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.7 | Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation. |

**Partnership for 21st Century Skills — Student Outcomes**

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| *Skills* | *P21 outcomes* |
| Creativity and Innovation | Think creatively (brainstorming and idea generation) |
| Critical Thinking | Reason effectively  Make judgments and decisions |
| Communication and Collaboration | Communicate clearly  Demonstrate ability to work effectively  Assume shared responsibility for collaborative work |
| Information Literacy | Access and evaluate information  Use and manage information |
| Media Literacy | Understand both how and why media messages are constructed, and for what purposes |

**Length**

This is a culminating activity. Students will work on their own to gather information and write a news story based on their own reporting. Teachers have the flexibility to determine the appropriate length. This could be completed entirely outside class or teachers may opt to allow some writing time during class. Interviews must be conducted outside class time.

**Materials**

Handout: Story Prep Worksheet

Handout: News Writing Rubric

**Lesson step-by-step**

*1. Build background*

Return students’ graded Story Prep Worksheets and explain that now they must go conduct the interviews and collect all of the information they need before the assigned deadline for story drafts.

*2. Assign a deadline*

Students must turn in a complete, double-spaced story in LQTQ format based on their own reporting as planned in their Story Prep Worksheets. Double-check the Story Prep Worksheets to be sure that all students have recorded the appropriate deadline.

**Assessment**

Assess the first drafts based on the News Writing Rubric. Teachers also may have students do a preliminary self-edit or peer-edit based on the rubric.