

Newspaper in Education Presents

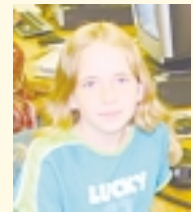
inquiziKIDZ

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When is it good to be nosey?

kidzbiz Developing Skills

Sarah Shealy is a student at Johnson Middle School, The Center for Research Technology. When she began her studies at Johnson, she knew little about computers, but she is well on her way to becoming a master of computer skills. She can type 38 words per minute and has learned how to surf the net, and use Microsoft Word and Excel. She developed these skills in Elaine Waldron's Business Technology class. Sarah conducted a research project about endangered and extinct animals. She and her classmates learned to use several search engines to gather information and used Microsoft Word to prepare the final report. Sarah knows these skills will be valuable in high school, which makes her confident of her future success. Sarah also competes in Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) and feels that her test grades have improved as a result of preparing for competition. Her knowledge of research and technology will be an asset as she strives toward her goal of becoming a scientist or computer engineer.



Sarah Shealy

school biz For The Love Of it

Elaine Waldron loves teaching at Johnson Middle School, The Center for Research Technology. Students at Johnson approach the academic subjects through the lens of research. Elaine's Business Technology class is where much of the research is actually conducted. Her students gain computer skills and knowledge of current software programs such as Excel, Word, and PowerPoint. Elaine works with other Johnson teachers to integrate classroom activities for students. For example, a language arts teacher gave her students a research assignment in the spring. Students used their time in the Business Technology lab to conduct Internet research. Then they shared their research findings using their computer skills to create brochures, reports and multimedia presentations. Students can make practical use of the skills learned in Elaine's class, which is something Elaine says that parents and students appreciate. "We use computers as a tool for the future," states Elaine Waldron. As an extension of the classroom activities, Elaine is also the sponsor of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) at Johnson. This club gives students the opportunity to demonstrate their technology skills as they compete with other students throughout the state.



Elaine Waldron

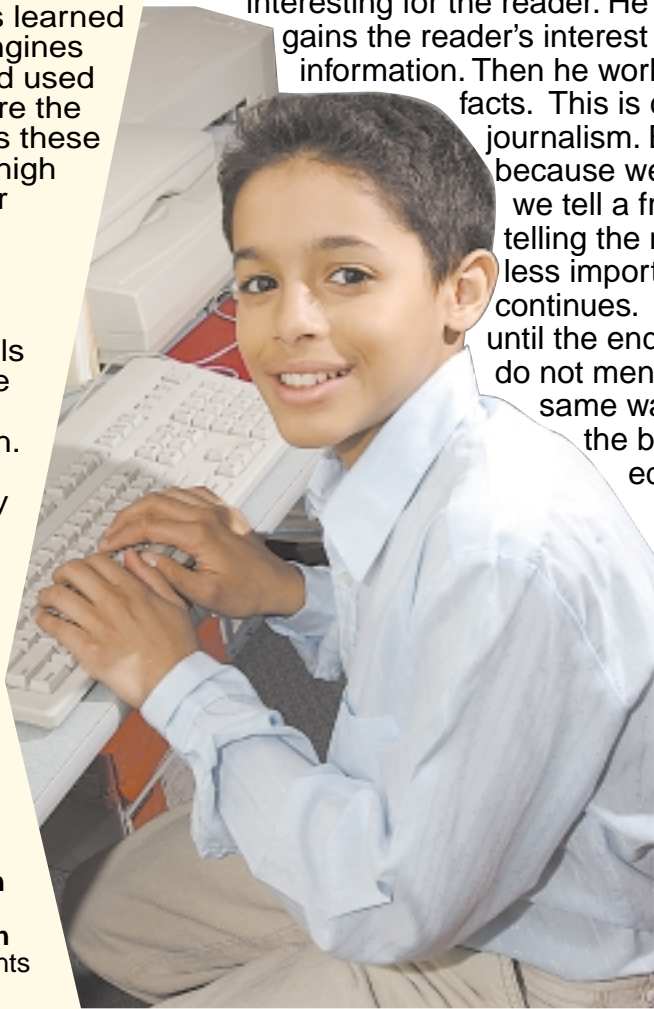
Investigative Reporter Just The Facts

Graffiti? On the beautiful brick walls of a brand new school? Where did it come from, and who is responsible? If you were a reporter, your nose for the news would help you discover the answers. Finding out this kind of information and writing it in a format that is appropriate for publication is the kind of thing that an investigative newspaper reporter does.

Who, what, where, when, why and how are the key questions every reporter must ask. Finding the facts related to any newsworthy event requires investigative skills and a great deal of determination. Most reporters begin by interviewing knowledgeable witnesses, neighbors and others affected by the event. The reporter asks questions to determine a possible motive. Information that is gathered provides leads to new information. Reporters read police reports, research statistical data and investigate background information. Once the facts are identified, the actual writing begins.

When a reporter sits at the computer to begin writing, he must maintain objectivity. At the same time, he must make the story interesting for the reader. He begins by writing a *lead*, a sentence that gains the reader's interest with the most interesting piece of information. Then he works his way down to the least interesting facts. This is called the *inverted pyramid* style of journalism. Everyone is familiar with this technique, because we use it all the time. For example, when we tell a friend about our summer, we begin by telling the most exciting things first, filling in with less important details as the conversation continues. The least important information is held until the end of the conversation, and sometimes we do not mention it at all. A news story works the same way. The key information can be found in the beginning paragraphs, which enables an editor to shorten it, if space is limited.

The story is told logically and factually. Facts are checked for accuracy and quotes are used to bring the story to life. When a reporter's story exposes wrong-doing, he is serving the public. He not only provides the news, he opens the door for others to take corrective action.



Discover the Future

Do you enjoy digging in and finding the answers to perplexing questions? Do you keep working and refuse to give up until you find the answer? If so, then a career in research may pique your interest. Research these possibilities:

- Research Scientist
- Statistician
- Librarian
- Medical Research Technician
- Research Analyst
- Research Engineer
- Clinical Laboratory Research Technician
- Investigative Reporter
- Legal Investigator
- Paralegal
- Historian
- Market and Survey Economist

For more career information see your school counselor and get information on-line at: <http://jobstar.org/tools/career/spec-car.cfm> OR <http://www.acinet.org/acinet/default.asp>



explore it

Unscramble the following graffiti message that appeared on the fictitious wall in today's main InquizaKIDZ article:
"taesydney nohjn yvedorp eh dah a soen rof het sewn newh eh svdole eht fagifitr yrsmyte ofr sih thaceer."

Now see if you can determine the 5 "W's" and the "H" behind the message.

Who? _____
What? _____
When? _____
Where? _____
Why? _____
How? _____

Answer: Yesterday, Johnny proved he had a nose for the news the when he solved the graffiti mystery for his teacher.

Investigative reporters research and record what they read, see, and hear. The more they practice writing, the better they become. Start your own investigative notebook. For one week, write at least five minutes about things you see happening. Does your writing answer who, what, when, where, why, and how?

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- Ballard Elementary Magnet
- Daughtrey Preparatory Magnet
- Harlee Middle Magnet
- Johnson Middle Magnet
- Lee Middle Magnet



- Lincoln Middle Magnet
- Manatee Elementary Magnet
- Rowlett Elementary Magnet
- Tillman Elementary Magnet
- Wakeland Elementary Magnet



The Big 6
<http://www.big6.com/kids/>

I.n.k.
<http://ink.news.com.au/index.cfm>

Power Reporting
<http://powerreporting.com/treasure.html>

Time for Kids
<http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/news/white/1,6258,48906,00.html>

Schools listed in red offer instruction in the subject area featured in today's InquiziKIDZ

Next Weeks Inquizikidz - What happens to make your skin feel like a fried egg?