

This Just In...
News Articles

Grade Level: 3-6

Objective:

- Students will gain knowledge of events outside of the United States
- Students will reflect on current events in the world.
- Students will summarize nonfiction articles.

Materials

Task Sheet

Teacher Assessment Rubric

Self Assessment Rubric

Peer Assessment Rubric

Websites

<http://www.japantoday.com/>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/>

<http://www.chinanews.cn/>

<http://www.newsonjapan.com/>

Procedure

Session 1: (15-20 minutes)

Begin a discussion with the students about the news. Engage the students by having them share what they have seen on the news. Ask students who is featured on the news? Who is telling the news? What is the purpose of the news? Have students watch a 15-20 minute segment of the news on TV and complete the reflection.

Session 2: (40 minutes)

- Students can begin the lesson by sharing their reflections. Ask students what they saw? Did they see what they think they were going to see? What was missing? What did you think you were going to see a lot more of but didn't? Was any information left out? Did it give you enough information about Georgia? The US? The world?
- Tell students that we want to be knowledgeable of the world around us in order for us to understand other cultures. We will be researching the important stories that we don't see everyday from countries around the world. This will help us become knowledgeable about international issues. Read the task sheet with the students.
- Model going to some websites that give articles on world events. See above for a suggested list of events.
- Model reading an article of interest and model reflection and summarizing skills. Make frequent text connections and ask many relevant questions.
- Model writing a sample summary and reflection to be included in the "This Just In..." section of the class website.

Session 3: (40 Minutes)

- Have the students research articles on their own. (You may want to assign a country a week or a country a month. You may also want to have only a few students work on the assignment per week.)
- Simulate a news program in the classroom when the students share their articles. You can even have some students make commercials to include persuasive techniques.

Evaluation

- Use the teacher, peer, and self assessment rubrics