

# Check It Out:

## Newspaper Activities for Parents and Children

Now  
I  
Get It!

### Your Perfect Match!

Take a good look at the newspaper you hold in your hands. It provides you with a wide range of information about topics and issues that are important to you. This newspaper keeps you up to date on events taking place in your community and around the world, and includes something about your personal interests, too.

Are you a sports fan? This newspaper provides reports on games, stories about players and events, and lots of scores. Are you a devotee of the arts? This newspaper provides details on and reviews of performances and exhibits. Are you a gourmet cook or just an eager eater? This newspaper provides you with stories about seasonal foods, gourmet trends and local restaurants, along with grocery store ads and valuable coupons. Do you need to buy equipment for camping or a home office? Check out the display ads that you will find throughout this newspaper.

Whatever your interests, whatever your needs, this newspaper is your personal, up-to-date resource. Check it out!

**TRY THIS:** Look at the index at the front of this newspaper, then examine the section fronts and section titles. Skim the headlines as you browse through the newspaper. Identify five stories, features or ads that catch your attention. Now find a story, feature or ad that would interest at least three other people you know. This newspaper is a match for everyone!



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### Different Points of View

The news stories in this newspaper provide you with current information about issues in your community, your state and the country. You know that the decisions made by local, state and national leaders will affect you and your family. What do others think about a current issue? This newspaper provides a forum for the exchange of ideas about important issues.

Look at the editorial and op-ed pages in this newspaper. You'll find editorials reflecting the official view of the newspaper and opinion columns in which political observers and participants offer their thoughts. There is another important part of the editorial page – letters to the editor. Concerned citizens, including you, can share ideas with the rest of the community. So if you want to see opposing points of view about an issue, go to the editorial page in this newspaper. Check it out!

**TRY THIS:** Read a news story about a current issue. Think about your position on the issue. Write a brief paragraph expressing your opinion. Now read the editorial page today, or over the next few days. Find columns or letters that agree with your opinion and columns or letters that disagree with your opinion. Write down three ideas that oppose yours. How has your thinking been changed by examining different points of view?



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### Wonderful Words!

We can all improve our ability to communicate with others by increasing our vocabulary. This newspaper provides you with many opportunities to learn new words. Newspaper reporters are professional writers who select the language they use carefully and thoughtfully. They want to be accurate and engaging. Newspaper editors generally write the headlines for stories; they use language to get your attention and your interest. Sports reporters and editors are often considered the most colorful writers. Just look at the many different ways they can tell you that one team defeated another.

You'll find words related to the arts in the entertainment section, words about economics and careers in the business section, and words about building and renovating in how-to sections. As you read this newspaper to obtain information, take some time to enjoy the language as well. Check it out!

**TRY THIS:** Find new vocabulary words in this newspaper. Make a list of five words for each of these categories: government, arts/entertainment, sports teams, science and business. Now try to think of related words for each word on your list – for example, a word related to *governor* would be *government*.



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### Save Money!

There is important economic information for you in this newspaper – news about goods and services right here in your community. Whether you need food and supplies for a party, or just the right tire for your car, you can find it in the newspaper.

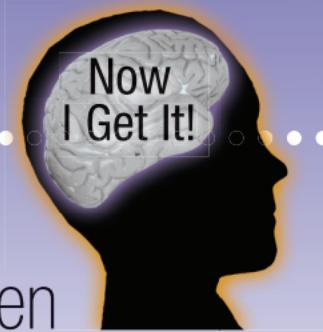
Do you want to have a great dinner to celebrate a birthday? Look at the restaurant ads. Do you want to take in a movie? Look in the entertainment section. Do you need a new place to live? You'll find many options in the classified advertising section.

Several times a week, your local merchants put information about sales and special offers in the advertising circulars that are inserted into this newspaper. On a daily basis, local merchants also place display ads throughout the newspaper, and some even advertise in the classified section. When you want to get the most for your money, look at the ads in this newspaper. Check it out!

**TRY THIS:** Make a list of five different products or services you might need in the next week, such as food, health/beauty products, office supplies or a haircut. Include places you would like to go, such as a movie, restaurant or live performance. Now see how many things on your list that you can locate in this newspaper. Put a check by each item you find.

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### Just for Fun!

Every day, this newspaper provides you with information about current events, important issues, and goods and services. However, the editors realize that sometimes readers just want to have fun, so this newspaper also has many features designed to entertain.

The comics section has long been popular with readers. You're likely to find a comic strip that reflects your life and experiences. Do you like a mental challenge? Look for word and math puzzles in this newspaper. Do you want to relax in front of the TV tonight? You'll find a schedule of shows and viewing recommendations in the TV pages. You may encounter diversion on the editorial pages as well. There are many political writers and cartoonists who use humor to make their points.

**TRY THIS:** Find a word or math puzzle in this newspaper. Complete the puzzle. Was it easy or challenging? Find two TV programs you might like to watch. List the titles and write a sentence explaining why you would choose each one. Find a comic strip that reflects your life or the life of someone you know. Show the comic strip to a family member or friend and tell them why it is like you or the person you know. Does your family member or friend agree with your explanation?



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