

JANUARY

1
Happy
New Year

Holiday

2 From the weather map, list temperatures from lowest to highest. Figure medians, averages of an area. Find the difference between selected cities, lows and highs. Make a line graph.

3 Identify countries that are at war. Have students determine to what extent scientific factors (natural resources, climate, overpopulation, etc.) are involved in the conflict, if at all.

4 Draw a rough floor plan of a home. Collect newspaper pictures of furniture and appliances to fill a comfortable home. Determine rough costs of furnishing a home using classified ads.

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7 Compile a list of words that you are not familiar with in your newspaper reading. Make a crossword puzzle using these words with your definitions.

8 Make a "Good News" bulletin board each week as the starting point for classroom discussion and sharing of good news of the students.

9 Locate the statistics from games in the Sports section. Graph the total number of yards rushed, homeruns hit, passes thrown, etc. in a single game.

10 Look at the weather map daily and compare the prediction to the actual weather. Prepare a graph comparing the predictions to the actual weather.

11 Collect articles of accidents that have happened in the home. Tell how the accidents could have been prevented.

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14 Select six headlines from the newspaper. Cut apart the words. Using your words, create new sentences. Identify the noun, verb and adjective in each.

15 To improve map skills and understand current events, use the newspaper to follow the route of government officials as they travel around the country and world.

16 From the classified ads, cut out five different monthly rent payments. Arrange the payments in order from the smallest amount to the largest amount.

17 Have students examine stories related to the potential extinction of different species around the world. Have them present their findings as a news, feature story or an editorial (use graphs too).

18 Find a recipe in the food section of the newspaper. Examine the recipe's ingredients to see if it includes enough of the nutrients necessary for a balanced diet. What should be added?

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21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Find articles about Martin Luther King Jr. What were his accomplishments? What did he stand for? What is his legacy? Write a summary of what you have learned.

22 Find articles about countries at war. Use newspaper archives and reference books to look for the same topic 3-5 years ago - what has changed, been resolved or worsened.

23 Measure the space of all the ads in the main news section. Determine what percentage of space is used for news and for advertising.

24 Find stories about sources of energy (petroleum, water, geothermal, radioactive, wood, wind, etc.) and report with chart distinguishing between renewable and nonrenewable energy sources.

25 Find a comic strip that shows two coworkers or an employee and manager having a conflict. Rewrite the comic strip depicting a better way to handle the dispute.

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28 Find an article about someone who has broken a law. How would you feel if you were the lawbreaker, the victim, the lawyer or the judge? Rewrite the article from one of their points of view.

29 Over a month or more, clip articles that deal with problems and/or issues facing your local government. Discuss the reason for these problems, and how the government hopes to solve them.

30 Skim the paper to find examples of the following: age, time, date, amount, distance, money, or percentage (or other math concepts, whole numbers, fractions, decimals, formulas, etc.).

31 Have students locate, read and summarize newspaper articles on production, use and conservation of energy.