

ACCREDITATION

Each issue of *The Current Events* newspaper for kids fosters in students a passion for knowledge and the confidence that comes from “knowing what you know.”

The Current Events kids newspaper supports educators as they help students strengthen communication skills, develop higher-order thinking, and build a strong foundation for literacy by:

- Conforming to “Reading First.”
- Providing a complete Teacher’s Guide with every issue, adaptable for curricula in grades 2–8.
- Aligning our lessons with national learning standards.
- Reinforcing research-based learning strategies:

TCE Feature	How It Strengthens Literacy	Research
Readers Respond	1. activates higher order thinking; 2. widens range of thinking levels to encourage comprehension	Bloom 1956; Otero, Leon, Glasser 2002; RRSG 2002
QAR	1. gives students language for talking about the strategy they use when answering questions; 2. metacognitive; 3. test preparation	Raphael 1982, 1986
Text Features	supports students’ ability to navigate through informational text	Williams and Stafford 2005
AIM/Essential Question	sets purpose for reading	RRSG 2002
Authentic Literacy	1. engages and motivates students; 2. increases student comprehension and writing abilities	Duke, Purcell-Gates, Hall, & Tower, 2006/2007
Primary Source Documents	1. promotes higher level of critical thinking and improved comprehension; 2. offers students an opportunity to connect with history in a personal and active manner	1. Callison & Saunders-Brunner, 2004; Miller, 1998; Morgan, 2002; 2. Lafaye, 2001; Levstik, 1998; 1993; Maynard, 2003; Otten, 1998
Informational Text	1. builds world knowledge and vocabulary; 2. harnesses students’ natural curiosity; 3. prepares students for the type of reading they will experience as adults	Duke 2004, 2006

Graphic Organizers	helps students construct meaning and recall knowledge	Ambruster et al. 2001
Writing prompt	1. improves comprehension (a) students organize their thoughts in order to express their thoughts and interpretations; (b) improves students' writing abilities and therefore enables them to better understand written work	Lehr and Osborn 2005
Vocabulary	1. as a form of indirect vocabulary instruction; 2. article structure provides: (a) extensive independent reading to expand word knowledge; (b) rich and varied reading experiences	Graves, 2000, 2006, McKeown, Curtis, 1987
Vocabulary	1. as a form of direct vocabulary instruction; 2. <i>Word Wizard</i> provides (a) instruction in independent word learning strategies; (b) word-consciousness activities enhance learning	Graves, 2000, 2006, McKeown, Curtis, 1987
Vocabulary	1. as a form of direct vocabulary instruction; 2. within the article, instruction in individual words enhances reading comprehension	National Reading Panel, 2000
Vocabulary	selection of vocabulary words based on how they will aid comprehension (Tier 2 and Tier 3 words)	Beck, McKeown, Kucan, 2002
Vocabulary	text features to increase comprehension	Hoyt, Mooney, Parkes, 2003
Maps (informational graphics)	1. visual literacy, including such skills as use of map key, compass rose, labels, geographic features; 2. informational graphics allow the viewer to access much information in visual form; 3. visual learners.	Benson, 1997; Branton, 1999; Dwyer as cited in Kleinman & Dwyer, 1999
Diagrams, Graphs, Charts (informational graphics)	1. builds visual literacy; 2. presents large amounts of information in visual, symbolic form; 3. makes information more accessible to visual learners	Benson, 1997; Branton, 1999; Dwyer as cited in Kleinman & Dwyer, 1999

Diagrams, Graphs, Charts (informational graphics) 1. visual representations attract attention and motivate students; 2. improve retention; 3. facilitate linkages between new and existing knowledge; 4. make information more accessible to visual learners Peck, 1993; Roth, Bowen, & McGinn, 1999

Our newspaper for kids educates to elevate. We prepare students for lasting academic achievement by helping to:

- increase civic and global awareness;
- bolster reading scores;
- improve vocabulary and writing skills;
- strengthen synthesis of information;
- encourage recognition and analysis of multiple viewpoints;
- develop lifelong reading habits;
- make learning come alive in a way textbooks don't.

The Current Events newspaper for kids Level 1A and Level 1B carry certified Lexile measures to ensure that our readers get the most out of every issue. (To learn more about [Lexile Framework](#), click here.)