

**NEW MILLENNIUM KIDS PUBLISHING** 

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### Creative and Crafty Writing

#### Getting Kids to Write the Fun and Easy Way for God's Glory



Creative and Crafty Writing by Karine Bauch and Jan May

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# 4. Writing a News Story (Part 1)

So stop telling lies. Let us tell our neighbors the truth, for we are all parts of the same body. Eph 4:25



news collage.

# Supplies (one per student):



- Student workbook
- Pencil with eraser
- 12" x 18" construction paper
- Recent newspapers
- Scissors
- Glue stick



#### **Teacher Prep:**

1. Collect a few **recent news articles** that are appropriate for children

2. If the students are young, you may want to **cut out headlines** for them that are not too offensive. (Local newspapers have more human interest stories than larger papers.)

3. It would be best if you **decided ahead of time** if you want to make your class newspaper to be *Bible Times* or *Fairy Tales Gazette*. It wouldn't be right to mix the two! Then have the students choose an appropriate story to us

### **Optional Journaling Homework:**

Write about an event in your life that was a shock or a surprise to you. It could be something happy, like a surprise party, or a sad event, like the loss of a grandparent.

## **Learning Time:**





News journalists have a huge responsibility to present the current news truthfully, without their opinion added. Notice the difference between FACT and OPINION in the two statements below:

FACT: The Governor vetoed the new education bill that would allow free candy to all school children.

**OPINION:** The Governor denied all children's right to eat candy!

Writing a news story is the OPPOSITE of telling a narrative story. A news story is meant to *inform quickly* and a good narrative *entertains the reader* over a period of time.



Most newspaper journalists use the "**inverted pyramid**" approach to reporting the news. The most important items in the story are told first. As the article goes on, the details that are given are less important ones.



While a good narrative makes the reader anticipate hearing the ending, a good news story tells the end of the story first, so that the reader can be informed **quickly**.

# Writing Time:

- 1. Have the students open their student workbooks to Lesson Four.
- 2. Ask them each to pick a well-known fairy tale or Bible story for their news report, depending on which theme you chose. The purpose of this project is to teach them to report FACTS, not OPINION. Using a story with widely known events will help keep the students focused on facts!
- 3. Read the following sample workbook page to the class so that they can understand what is expected of them. Then give them 15-20 minutes to complete their own worksheets. (This can be finished for homework.)

## NEWS STORY WORKSHEET (page 1)

- 1. Choose a well-known fairy tale or Bible story, such as: The Emperor's New Clothes
  - a. Red Riding Hood
  - b. Cinderella
  - c. Pinocchio
  - d. The Three Pigs
  - e. Sleeping Beauty

- - Beauty and the Beast f.
- g. Peter Rabbit
- h. David and Goliath
- i. Noah's Ark
- j. Moses Parts the Red Sea
- 2. Write out the FINAL result of the story: A child embarrassed the King during a public parade because the King had no clothes on.
- 3. From that result, fill in the following answers:
  - a. Who: A small child and a King
  - b. What: The King, who thought he was wearing invisible clothes, had the truth revealed about him publicly.
  - c. When: Yesterday
  - d. Where: In the town square, during the parade.
  - e. Why: The child was being truthful about what he saw, where everyone else was too scared to say the truth.
  - f. How: The child yelled out, "The King is naked! The King is naked!"
- 4. What events led up to the final result (in order):
  - a. Two swindlers sold the King "invisible" thread that, supposedly, could only be seen by wise people. Actually, there was no thread at all.
  - b. The King told his court of this thread and had a tailor "make" him a suit from it. The tailor did not want to appear a fool, so he pretended to do so.
  - c. When he showed his court his new suit, they all did not want to appear as fools and so agreed that it was beautiful.
  - d. The King then paraded down the street wearing nothing but the invisible suit when the boy exposed the truth.
- 5. List any other details that you can think of about the main character:
  - a. The boy was known by neighbors for not minding his manners.
  - b. He was a bright student, but often argued with his teachers.
- 6. List any other details that you can think of about the other characters (you can make some up some funny information about them!)
  - a. Name: *The King* 
    - Detail: Once bought a pet rock.
  - b. Name: The swindlers Detail: Wanted by police in nearby country for

impersonating Siamese twins.

Now, write a short, catchy headline for the story: Child Exposes King!

## **Craft Time**

1. Give out construction paper, newspapers (or cut out headlines and photos), scissors and glue sticks.

Lesson Four

- 2. Have students cut out Bible verses from their workbook's clipart section (Lesson Four).
- 3. Have students create a collage of news headlines, news photos and Bible verses. They may choose one verse as a theme and find news articles to go with it, if desired.
- 4. Be sure to have the students date the collage for posterity!



## 5. Writing a News Story (Part 2)

"They do not fear bad news; they confidently trust the Lord to care for them." Psalm 112:7



### Today's Class

We will learn about the importance of being truthful.

We will also finish our news stories and publish

them as a class newspaper.



- Student workbooks
- Pencils with erasers
- Colored Pencils
- Black, fine-line markers



#### **Teacher Prep:**

You should decide ahead of time if you want to create a **hand-made** class newspaper or a **digital** one. *The sample above was created in Microsoft Publisher, but could have been done on Word or another word processing program.* The instructions during the craft time are for the hand-made version. For the digital version, students can type them at their home computers and email them to you for publishing.

#### **Optional Journaling Homework:**

Write two lists of descriptive words that tell about both the current season and the upcoming one.

## **Learning Time:**

The truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth...

It is a journalist's job to report the news accurately, just as it is a Christian's job to proclaim the GOOD news of Jesus Christ in truth and love.

1Peter 3:15 says:...if someone asks about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it.

= ADMIT YOU ARE A SINNER.

OF GOD AND ROSE FROM THE DEAD.

OTHERS.

B = Believe that Jesus is the Son

= CONFESS YOUR NEW FAITH TO

Holy Bible. New Living Translation © 1996, 2004

Could you explain the way of salvation clearly if asked? Here's a quick, "headline" way of sharing your faith:

You could certainly add more facts and Bible verses to these steps, like the details in a news story. But remember to stick to the facts!







# Writing Time:

It's time now to write the actual news story using the facts from the worksheet in the Lesson Four. It is suggested that you read the following instructions to the students, one step at a time, as they complete the worksheet in Lesson Five. Reluctant writers may need the "push" of knowing that the rest of the class is waiting!

- 1. Start with your **LEAD** sentence. It should tell the WHO, WHAT, WHEN and WHERE of the final result of the story. (See news story worksheet, #3, a, b, c and d.)
- 2. Your next sentence should tell WHY. (See news story worksheet #3 e.)
- 3. Your next sentence or two should tell HOW. (See news story worksheet #3 f.)
- 4. Starting a new paragraph, tell the **main events** of the story in order. Leave out unimportant details. (See news story worksheet #4.)
- 5. Write one more paragraph that includes some **details** about the various characters. (See news story worksheet #5 and #6.)
- Lesson Five,
- Teacher: Edit each story, checking for punctuation, grammar and spelling.
  Students: Rewrite final draft neatly in Student Workbook in the Lesson Five section.
- Cut it out of the workbook and give to the teacher who will put them together into a newspaper.
- 8. If you are planning on creating your class newspaper on a computer at home, have the students bring home their workbooks and type in their stories in an email for you to cut and paste into a document. Alternately, you may wish to take their stories home with you and type them yourself.

## **Craft Time**

A good newspaper also has good images that help to tell the story. Let's create some descriptive images for our newspaper!

#### Guide the students through the following steps:

1. **Draw** a picture to illustrate their stories in the "News Story Illustration Box" in their student workbooks using pencil.

- 2. **Color** them in with colored pencils. (Even if you don't plan to make color copies, the colored pencils will create some grayscale shading.)
- 3. Outline the drawings with a black fine line marker so they will copy well.
- 4. Cut out the illustrations and put their names on the back.

#### It is now up to you, the teacher, to complete the project in the following way:

- 1. **Cut and paste** the student news stories onto one of the blank newspaper templates on the following pages. (*First make copies of the second blank page, as many as needed for your class newspaper.*)
- 2. Use the **clipart** at the end of this lesson for filler between articles. Use "sidebar clipart" for the sidebar on the second and subsequent pages.
- 3. Fill in the date, your name as editor, your students' names as associate editors and the table of contents.
- 4. **Photocopy** the newspaper and distribute to each student at the next class.

(See following page for examples of both newspapers.)





The Fairy Tale Gazette

. .

The pen is mightier than the sword.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:		creative and crafty Publishing		
ARTICLE	PAGE #	Editor: Associate Editors:		
		(HEADLINE)		
			(NEWS STORY	CONT'D)
		(ILLUSTRATION)		
		(NEWS STORY)		
	<u> </u>			

Date:

Volume 1, Issue 1

# The Bible Times

"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver."

#### Creative and Crafty Publishing

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:		Editor:		
ARTICLE	PAGE #	Associate Editors:		

Date:

Volume 1, Issue 1

# The Bible Times

#### Creative and Crafty Publishing



### Fairy Tale Gazette clipart page:

Cut out and use these to fill in the newspaper between articles.

#### **SIDEBAR Items:**

### LOST and FOUND

LOST: Flock of wayward sheep, off white and fluffy. Last seen with young girl in hoop skirt. \$100 reward and many thanks to whoever finds them. Contact The Peep Family at 555-1234.

FOUND: Glass slipper, size unknown. Lost at the Royal Prince's Ball last night. Owner of the other slipper should report to the Royal Guard for sizing up.



WANTED: Name: "Wicked Witch of the West"

Last Seen: Conjuring up flying monkeys in a poppy field just outside The Emerald City.

**Crime:** General wickedness and physical threats to residents of Oz.



Report sightings to the Emerald City Police Department. ...and I'll huff and I'll puff...

There's no place like home.

Not by the hair on my chinny chin chin!





Once upon a time...

. Who's afraid of the Big, Bad Wolf?

...and they lived happily ever after.











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- Free Writing gives children freedom to express their inner thoughts
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