

USING MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS for family literacy

There are many kinds of children’s magazines to please every taste and inclination; on sports, on horses, on collecting, on wildlife. Children love to receive magazines through the mail. A subscription makes a great gift!

But don’t forget about newspapers. Because the daily newspaper contains up-to-date articles, it provides families with an opportunity for real world learning experiences that reflect day-to-day life and interests: articles, editorials, comics, kids’ and teens’ pages, sports news and statistics, crosswords and word finds as well as classified ads and other advertisements.



reading activities using newspapers and magazines

Headliners	<p>Read only the headlines and try to guess the subject and details of each story. Then read the story and decide if the headline matches the story. If it doesn't, think of a new one.</p>
<p>Clip the captions from some newspaper photos and ask your child to match them or write new captions or put word balloons on pictures of people.</p>	Cutlines
Match-ups (articles)	<p>Clip four or five stories (use only 2 different stories the first time to teach this activity), try to match the stories with the headlines. Encourage your child to search for the main idea in each story.</p>
<p>Clip a story, cut it into paragraphs, and have your child try to reassemble it in a logical order. Remember that news writing is like an inverted pyramid, with the most important facts at the top. The first paragraph should be correctly identified, but the following paragraphs may be sequenced in more than one way.</p>	Jumbles
Ad Decoding	<p>Work with your child to translate the advertising shorthand of a display or classified ad into full sentences of standard English.</p>

These suggestions are courtesy of the PEI Literacy Alliance. Republished with permission.

