

Turning a list of facts into a news article

Print journalists (who write for printed and online newspapers and magazines) research a news story and find out the main facts. Some journalists might have a 'researcher' who does the research on the story and just sends the journalist a summary of the facts.

You are going to be a journalist today and luckily you have a researcher who has found out the main information for you already! So it is your job to take the information and turn it into a news story. You can type it or write it by hand. You need to make sure you use these things:

- 1) Sentences - you need to turn the notes your researcher has made into full sentences which don't miss any of the little words like 'the', 'a' or 'and', plus it must make sense.
- 2) Good starters - start some of your sentences with interesting words (you could use verbs, adverbs, time connectives), but not every sentence needs a super exciting starter.
- 3) Description - include adjectives and adverbs to provide more detailed descriptions of the people and events in the story.
- 4) Images - find or draw a picture about the story to make the article more appealing.
- 5) Punctuation - remember to start sentences with a capital letter, end them with a full stop/question mark/exclamation mark, use commas for lists, use speech marks if you quote what someone has said.

Turn one of these stories into a proper news article and if you still have time you could choose another to write up for your newspaper.

Covid Chronicle - news section

Captain Tom Moore

- Wanted to raise £1000 for the NHS by walking up and down his garden 100 times before his 100th birthday
- Wanted to thank NHS for treatment he received for a broken hip and skin cancer
- Daughter's company wrote a very short article about what her dad was doing
- Local newspapers picked up on it and started writing about him
- Later featured on BBC Breakfast and he had soon raised £1million
- Lots of people started gathering outside his house to watch him do his laps
- Finished challenge live on BBC on 16 April
- By 20 April, raised over £20million
- Nick Knowles' DIY SOS constructed a fence around his garden to keep it safe from all the spectators
- He received so many birthday cards, they used local school hall to keep them all in
- Received at least 160,000 cards
- Promoted by army to 'Colonel'
- Boris Johnson wished him happy birthday
- The Queen sent a birthday telegram
- Spitfire and Hurricane planes flew over his village

The Book of Hopes

- 110 children's authors and illustrators have created a 'Book of Hopes'
- Online and free
- Contains short stories, poems and illustrations
- Put together by Katherine Rundell
- She contacted other authors to see if they could help
- Jacqueline Wilson, Michael Morpurgo and Axel Scheffler have contributed
- National Literacy Trust website

Sausage dog rescued using bacon

- Miniature dachshund (Floyd) lost for 3 days
- Middleton Tyas, North Yorkshire
- 7 months old
- A specialist dog tracker told owners encourage him back using treats like bacon
- Floyd got frightened when he heard another dog barking and ran off into a rapeseed field
- Appealed for help on Facebook
- Family and friends joined in with the search
- Mandy Butler from the Lost Dog Trapping Team came to help
- Said he wouldn't come if people were calling his name
- Started leaving bacon, sardines and beef stock out to lure him back
- Returned after 3 days
- Owners now want to get a tracking device to go on his collar

Moths are surprisingly useful

- Transport pollen between flowers and plants at night
- Transfer over a large area
- More useful than bees
- Dr Wolton, from University College London - moths work complements that of bees
- Moth numbers have dropped since the 1970s because of changes in land use and use of pesticides
- Bee numbers are dropping too but because we know more about bees more us being done to protect them

Rihanna heads towards top of list of UK's richest musicians

- Born in Barbados, moved to London last year
- 32 years old
- Above Mick Jagger, Elton John and Rod Stewart in chart
- Estimated fortune of £468million
- Wealth boosted by cosmetics company, Fenty and a clothes line as well as her music
- Paul McCartney and Andrew Lloyd Webber remain at the top of the list
- Ed Sheeran remains the wealthiest young musician (under 30)