

# What's in the *First News Reading Package*?

*First News* – delivered into school every Friday during term time

## Reading *First News*

### Reading skills practised:

- reading for personal interest
- making and developing reading choices
- discussing reading choices with peers and adults
- reading to learn about the wider world

- Regular news sections – Headlines, Home News, World News, News in Pictures, Animal News, Science, Entertainment, Crazy But True and Sport.

- News told in a mixture of short chunks and longer articles with lots of illustrative photos to support pupils aged 7 to 14 with different reading abilities.

- Other text types – interviews, fact boxes and reviews can be found throughout the newspaper.

- A **PDF version** of the newspaper is available each week for sharing stories on interactive whiteboards or projectors.



*The Differentiated Weekly Activities* – downloadable from the website every Friday during term time

## Activity type

### Years 1 – 3

(Level 1A to 2A readers)

### Years 4 – 6

(Level 3 to 5 readers)

### Years 7 – 9

(Level 4 to 6 readers)

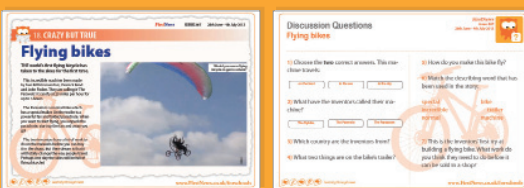
## Comprehensions / Discussion Questions

### Reading skills practised:

- find the facts in a news report (AF2)
- deduce and infer information (AF3)
- work out why the journalist has written and presented a story in a particular way (AF4-7)

## The Weekly Four

- Four stories are selected from the newspaper and simplified for Level 1A to 2A readers.
- There is a set of questions for each of the four stories to encourage pupils to discuss them and ensure understanding.



## Look Closer

- An in-depth set of discussion questions focusing on one article from the newspaper.
- The teacher answers include the AF Strand (AF2-7) of each question and a progression of possible answers with levels (L3-5). These will be updated to fit in with the new curriculum.



## Article Analysis

- The questions are split into three sections: A. Find the facts, B. Interpret the information and C. Analyse the writing and presentation.
- These can be used as an assessment tool as each questions' assessment focus (AF2-7), along with suggested levels (L4-6), are given in the teacher answers. These will be updated to fit in with the new curriculum.



## News Quizzes

### Reading skills practised:

- practise scanning
- retrieving information
- developing understanding of newspaper traditions

## Mystery News Quiz

- Study and discuss images from the newspaper to identify key vocabulary.
- Predict what the story might be, then hunt for it in the newspaper to find out the real story.
- A hook into reading the real newspaper.



## News & Pics Quiz

- Ten questions and eight pictures.
- Pupils use their knowledge of newspaper sections and scanning skills to locate the relevant topical information quickly.



## In the know Quiz

- A challenging quiz featuring regular sections: words, pictures, places, people, objects and statistics.
- Ensures pupils read copies of the newspaper thoroughly, from cover to cover.



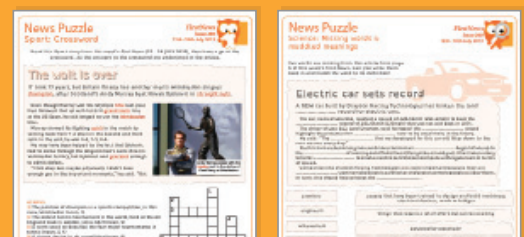
## News Puzzles

### Reading skills practised:

- identify the definition of key words in a news story to aid understanding

## News Puzzle 1

- Reinforce key words from the simplified stories and identify their meanings in crosswords or missing word/matching meaning puzzles.



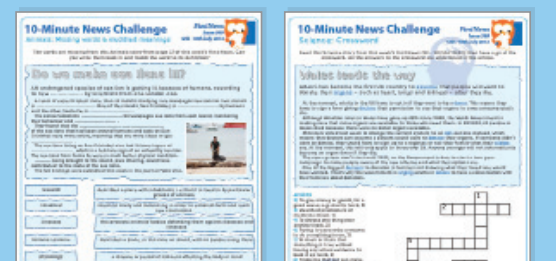
## News Puzzle 2

- Ensure pupils' understanding of one of the news stories by identifying the definition of key words and specialist vocabulary in one report from the paper.



## News Puzzle 3 – 10 Mins Challenge

- A challenging puzzle looking at the definition of complex words and specialist vocabulary in one story.



*The Weekly Debate* – extend more able Year 5 and 6 pupils (Level 4-7)

### Skills practised:

- understand different viewpoints
- develop reasoned, informed opinions
- develop awareness of topical dilemmas

- Debate an issue reported in one of the week's stories.
- Additional background information is provided within this activity, along with different viewpoints and discussion questions to help students explore and understand the issue and to develop their own informed opinions.
- This activity is aimed at higher ability Year 5 and 6 pupils and KS3 students.
- Why not start a topical Debate Club using this resource?



Sample these accompanying reading activities for free at [www.firstnews.co.uk/forschools](http://www.firstnews.co.uk/forschools)