

## Newspaper article

### Literacy Curriculum Mapping Years 3&4: 8

#### Introduction:

Write a newspaper article on Tazz's successful return to Earth.

#### Reading:

- Drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence

#### Plan their writing by:

- Discussing and recording ideas

#### Draft and write by:

- Using an increasing range of sentence structures
- Organising paragraphs around a theme
- In narratives, creating settings, characters and plot

#### Starter:

##### Activity

Let's familiarise ourselves with how newspapers are written.

Newspaper articles sum up the story in the first few sentences. This is so readers in a hurry can get to the central facts first.

1. Think: When...Where... What... Who...Why. Here is an example:

*On 6th August at 8am, in the carpark of Savapenny Supermarket, an escaped puma from Sleepy Hollow Zoo was found in a shopping trolley by Jennifer Salisbury, a local traffic warden.....*

2. Choose a name for your newspaper.

3. Get your facts right.

4. Language should be factual but bring out the drama of the experience for your readers.

5. Start with a sentence that grabs your reader and makes them want to read more.

6. Present your article in columns.

7. Sub-headings add drama to your article. They are often single words like these:

"Horried" "Mystery"

8. Add a picture/photo with its own caption.

9. Use quotes from people involved. "I really thought that puma was going to attack me," Jennifer said, as she recovered from her ordeal last night.

10. Sign off at the end, e.g. "From our reporter, A N Other."

#### Here is a sample article to help you.

The Daily Zoo

*Three meerkats and a giraffe were injured in a freak fire at Green Acre Zoo which broke out in the early hours of the morning. Keeper Jack Hargreaves described frantic staff rushing to put out the flames engulfing the gift shop and adjoining enclosures before the arrival of the*

*Emergency Services at around 3am. All the penguins and monkeys have been accounted for. Tragedy. Keeper Sid Roberts said, "This is a tragedy for our zoo as the damage will cost thousands to repair. Our giraffe, Dora, one of our star attractions, is in a stable condition and three Meerkats suffered minor burns. Animals are very vulnerable in a fire like this because they tend to panic. Dora ran towards the flames and she had to be recaptured by her own keeper. She is being kept sedated. The zoo will reopen on Wednesday. The Fire Brigade issued a statement saying, "It is too early to say what caused this fire, but arson has not been ruled out." From our reporter, A N Other*

### **Main Lesson**

Now write your own article describing Tazz Anderson's successful touchdown in the sea. Add detail on her mission, the ups and downs of her trip to the Moon. Add interviews, captions and pictures to bring your newspaper article to life. Plenary Pin up all the articles and discuss the day's news.

### **Ideas for Inclusion:**

- Use *The Emotions Scale* to consider how the astronaut is feeling during the return to Earth.
- Choose one of the three templates provided to make your own newspaper story of Tazz's return to Earth. Look at the variety of assets provided to support your students.
- Sequence the symbolised sentences to make a newspaper report. Then add a photo or drawing.
- Research newspaper articles about previous moon missions.
- Organise a celebratory parade for Tazz. Pupils take turns to be Tazz and experience being congratulated by other team members e.g. patted on the back, shaking hands, and being given a celebratory flag.

### **LGfL Extension activity**

- Hold a press conference with a chair, Tazz, journalists etc.
- Use J2office Writer or Busy Things' Busy Publisher to design and create a whole newspaper front page with a Space theme. Add Space-related ads, events and other stories then swap with a partner and read theirs.