



The 5W's & H of Reporting

WHO?

The “WHO” can be the most important part of your story. Many people like reading about someone famous, like a movie star, politician, athlete or coach. What he or she has to say is important! Other times, the person you’re highlighting does something incredible or newsworthy.

WHAT?

Sometimes it’s the “WHAT” that makes your story—like scientists discover a new dinosaur in Arizona, a NASA spacecraft reaches Mars, or Africanized bees are a big problem this season. Diaper drives, cool field trips and big projects at your school can make a special story.

WHERE?

The place, or “WHERE” something happens, is also important. Whether your story is about landing on Mars or a graduation ceremony at school, it’s your job to report where the news takes place.

WHEN?

You always need to include “WHEN” something newsworthy takes place. It’s rarely the main focus of your story, but still needs to be reported.

WHY?

Is there a reason “WHY” something newsworthy happened? Why did the coach retire? Why are some people against bilingual education?

HOW?

The “HOW” in your story can spark a reader’s interest. How you became a straight A student or how your team won the state championship can make your story interesting.

