



NEWSHOUR

A NewsHour with Jim Lehrer special for students

EXTRA

LESSON PLAN: BE the Press: Local Interviews, National Issues

Handout #4

Ideas for Newspaper Articles

1. **Medicare and drug costs:** Interview your pharmacist about his elderly customers and the affordability of their medications. What should be done about drug prices?
2. **Homeland security:** Talk to a screener at your community's airport. How are people adapting to the new security regulations? Has she got any unusual stories to tell?
3. **Education:** What does your school's principal think about No Child Left Behind legislation? How has your school changed because of NCLB?
4. **Tax cuts:** Interview a CPA or financial planner on the effects of the cuts on the economy. Ask your parents what they did with the rebate check they received two years ago.
5. **Stem cell research:** Talk to your family physician for his opinion.
6. **Unemployment:** Visit your town's biggest employer, and interview the director of personnel. Ask her how national trends during the recession affected her company.
7. **War in Iraq:** Ask your neighbors whether they support or oppose the war, and why.
8. **Voter apathy:** Visit the county recorder's or registrar's office. Ask for statistics on registration and turnout in your county. Ask a registration official why he thinks so many people duck their duty to vote.
9. **Housing starts and interest rates.** Interview a builder or a realtor in your neighborhood about real estate trends.
10. **Environmental issues.** Visit a recycling plant and talk to people about waste management in your county.