

Be a Hero!

Goals

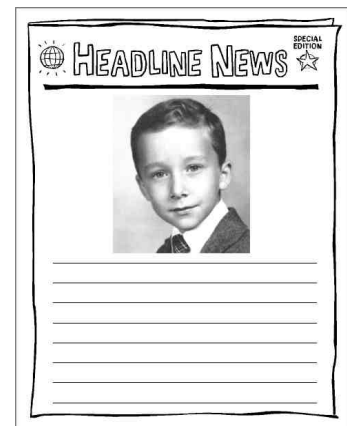
- To write an imaginative news story that demonstrates effective descriptive and expository writing skills
- To write clear and coherent sentences and paragraphs that develop a central idea



Overview: Students paste photos or draw pictures of themselves and write fictional news reports explaining how they became heroes.

Materials

- Copies of “Hero Template” printed in either of the following ways:
 1. the blank template as is with room for each student to draw a self-portrait and write their story
 2. a personalized template for each student with his or her digital photo pasted at the top (teacher or students will have to paste in photos as per example on right)
- If students will be drawing their self-portraits: Crayons, colored pencils, markers, and/or other drawing materials.
- Optional: One or more short news stories of interest to students.



Directions

1. If desired, begin with a mini-lesson on news reporting. Read one or more short news articles of interest to students, preferably featuring people who have done something heroic. Note the style in which news reports are written with an attention-grabbing headline and important facts first followed by less important details.

2. Ask students what it means to be a hero and have them name some heroes. Then ask each student to imagine something he or she might do to become a hero. Encourage students to consider a variety of possibilities such as personal accomplishments, team efforts, community action, or heroic rescues.
3. Give each child a copy of the “Be a Hero” template. Ask students to write a news story about themselves and their heroic actions. Remind them that news stories have an attention-grabbing headline and important facts first followed by less important details.
4. If students are drawing their own illustrations, ask them to draw a picture that features their heroic actions.

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- Ask students to write a news article about someone they consider a hero. Have them draw or paste a photo of the person. If their hero is someone they know or can contact, encourage students to interview that person and give their hero a copy of the finished news article.