

News
wise[®]

Activities for
libraries



NewsWise for libraries

These NewsWise activities have been designed for use in library settings.

They can be used with groups of children, or mixed groups of families with adults or older family members too. They are suitable for children aged 7 - 11.

These activities are flexible and adaptable to your setting. They can be done by participants working independently, in pairs or small groups, or done in larger groups more interactively.

You will find practitioner and participant instructions throughout and background knowledge to help you contextualise and explain the key learning points of the activities.

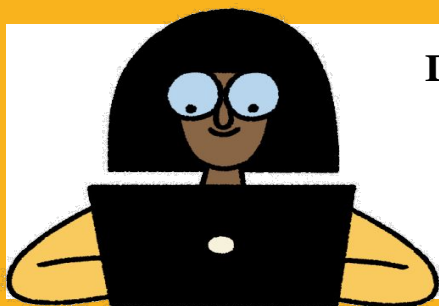


Fake news detectives:

- Vote in a fake or real headlines quiz, using a fake or real voting paddle
- Investigate two stories in depth, questioning the source and checking the coverage to find out which one is real

Gorilla on the loose:

- Sort through statements about a breaking news story to find the facts
- In role as news reporters, put together a news bulletin including the key facts of the story



Don't trust pictures on the internet!

- Vote in a fake or real photo quiz
- Caption competition; how can captions change the meaning of a photo?
- Make your own forced perspective photo

Understanding that information is targeted

- Targeting information at profiles
- Hook the reader; how and why do websites keep our attention for as long as possible?



Fake news detectives



Fake or real headlines quiz

Show participants the headlines and have a vote on whether they think the story is fake or real.

Participants can also make a fake or real voting paddle to show you their answers! Find this on the next page.

We have three fake or real quizzes available online:

www.theguardian.com/newswise/2020/mar/20/the-newswise-fake-or-real-headlines-quiz

www.theguardian.com/newswise/2021/feb/04/fake-or-real-headlines-quiz-newswise-2021

www.theguardian.com/guardian-foundation/2022/apr/14/fake-or-real-headlines-quiz

A fake or real headlines quiz can be done together as a group, or individually on devices/ computers.

Share the NewsWise navigator to remind everyone of the steps to take to verify information before sharing it.

Download it here:

https://bit.ly/News_Navigator



STOP
QUESTION
CHECK
DECIDE

Fake or real paddles

Every fake news detective needs a fake or real voting paddle!

Paddles help to show everyone when you have decided if a news report is real or not real.

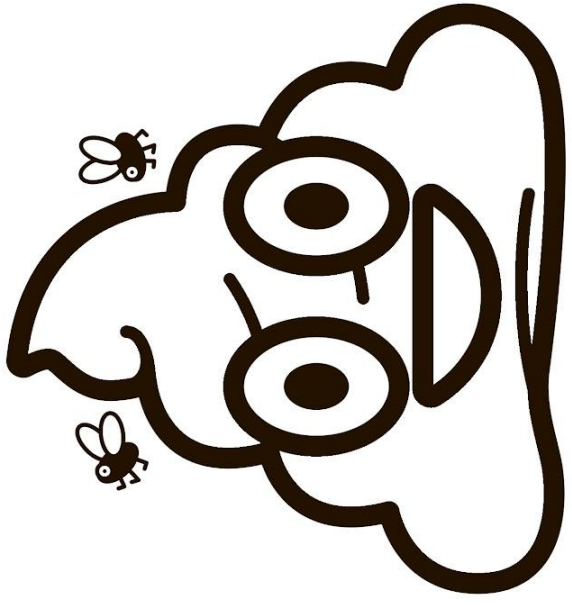
What you need:

- Small stick (like a lollipop stick)
- Colouring pens or pencils
- Paper
- Glue (optional)
- Glitter, feathers or stickers (optional)

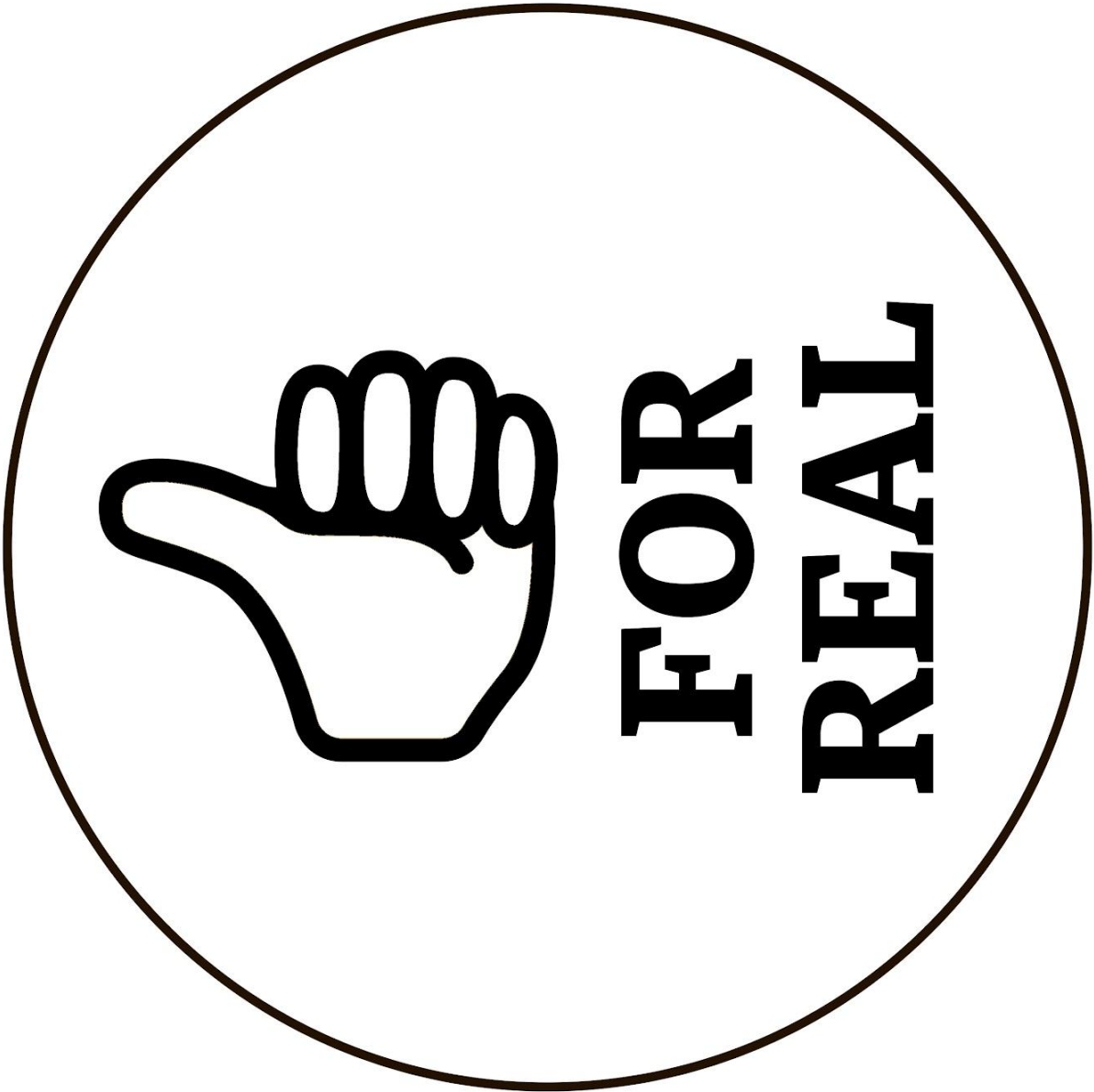


Instructions:

1. Print off or copy out the templates on the next page
2. Decorate both pictures: as well as colours, you could use glitter, stickers, feathers or pom poms!
3. Cut around the circle on each template (you can ask a grown up to help you).
4. You should now have two decorated circles, one with a picture of a thumbs up 👍 and one with a picture of a poo 💩. Turn them so that they are face down.
5. Glue your stick to the non-decorated side of one circle.
6. Put the other circle on top, so that the blank sides are together and the decorated sides are facing out.
7. Add more glue to the backs of the circles so that they completely stick together.
8. Hoorah! You have a paddle. Now you can use it to vote in our Fake or real headlines quiz!



FAIKE



Investigate the stories

Become fake news detectives! Participants investigate two stories in detail.

Give out or display the Investigate the stories sheets on the next two pages.

Story 1: Boy smashes 3,500-year-old vase in museum

Story 2: Climate activist Greta Thunberg tells people in China to stop using chopsticks

Using all the information available on the sheets, participants decide whether the headline is real by questioning the source and checking the coverage.

Participants can use the Trustworthy news sources and fake news clue words for professional news organisations and fake news vocabulary to look out for in their investigations.

Fake news detectives should consider: what clues helped them to identify the fake news? What clues showed them they could trust the real story?

Share the NewsWise navigator to remind everyone of the steps to take to verify information before sharing it.

Download it here:

<https://bit.ly/NewsNavigator>



STOP
QUESTION
CHECK
DECIDE

Investigate the stories: story 1

BOY SMASHES 3,500 YEAR OLD VASE IN MUSEUM

A four-year-old boy was visiting the Hecht Museum in Israel with his family when he accidentally broke the ancient vase.



CAN YOU TRUST THIS STORY?

Question the source

Who reported this story?

BBC

What type of company are they?

A UK news broadcaster with a TV channel and a website.

What other sorts of stories have they published?

National Gallery bans liquids after art works are damaged

Germany plans to hold elections next year

Is this a well-known news company?

Do they seem trustworthy?

Check the coverage

Who else reported on this story? What did they say?

The Independent, a UK news company with a news website:

Family mortified after little boy smashes 3,500-year-old museum artefact

A four-year-old child accidentally smashed a Bronze Age jar into pieces at the Hecht Museum in Israel.

The Standard, a UK news company with weekly newspaper and news website:

Family invited back to museum after boy, 4, smashes 3,500-year-old jar

The boy's horrified father said his son had been trying to peer inside the Bronze Age jar when it fell.

The Guardian, a UK news company with a newspaper and news website:

Boy, four, who broke bronze age jar returns to museum in Israel

The family watched the rare 3500-year-old jar, believed used for wine or oil, being restored at the Hecht Museum.

**BASED ON ALL THE EVIDENCE,
DO YOU THINK THIS STORY IS REAL OR FAKE?**

Investigate the stories: story 2

ANNE FRANK'S DIARY WAS WRITTEN BY AN AMERICAN MAN

It has been found that Anne Frank's diary was actually written after World War Two by an American writer named Meyer Levin.



CAN YOU TRUST THIS STORY?

Question the source

Who reported this story?

Social media users on Facebook

What type of company are they?

Social media users are not news organisations. It can be hard to tell who a social media user is as their names or pictures might not be real.

What other sorts of stories have they published?

Social media users can create and share posts and stories about anything, even if they're not true. This story has been shared several times.

Is this a well-known news company?

Do they seem trustworthy?

Check the coverage

Who else reported on this story? What did they say?

Full Fact, a fact-checking website:

Diary of Anne Frank not written by American novelist after WW2

A post being shared on Facebook falsely claims that the "true author" of Anne Frank's diary was a man.

Anne Frank Stichting, website for the Anne Frank Foundation charity and museum:

The authenticity of the diary of Anne Frank

All claims that the diary is a forgery and that it was written by others than Anne Frank herself are lies.

Anne Frank Trust UK, website for a UK-based Anne Frank charity:

Explore Anne Frank's diary

Anne received the diary on her 13th birthday. She wasted no time and immediately started writing in it.

**BASED ON ALL THE EVIDENCE,
DO YOU THINK THIS STORY IS REAL OR FAKE?**

Trustworthy news sources



EXAMPLES OF WELL KNOWN AND TRUSTED NEWS COMPANIES



BBC ITV Sky News Channel 4

The Guardian The Times First News

The Telegraph New York Times

Newsround The Week Junior



Fake news clue words



WORDS AND PHRASES THAT SHOW IT MIGHT NOT BE REAL



FAKE

HOAX

PARODY

FACT-CHECK

FICTITIOUS

FALSE

NO, THIS DID NOT HAPPEN!

Gorilla on the loose!

Fact, rumour, opinion and
speculation



Gorilla on the loose!

A gorilla has escaped from London Zoo!

There are rumours, opinions & guesses spreading online.

We need YOU to help us find the FACTS!



Instructions:

1. Take a look at the statements from people discussing the news story online. Can you sort them into **facts**, **opinions**, **rumours** and **guesses**?

TIPS:

- a) Question the **SOURCE**: Who is this statement from, and are they trustworthy?
 - b) Look at the **LANGUAGE**: Can you see any clue words that tell you it is a rumour, opinion or a guess? Use the language clues on page 9 to help you.
2. Well done! You should have found 3 facts. How did you know they were facts?
 3. Now put the 3 facts in the order they happened. **TIP**: Check the times on the statements to help you. Write (or cut out and stick) the 3 facts to your script in the right order.
 4. Grab your microphone, and practise your breaking news report. **Challenge**: Can you use a dramatic news voice? Can you sing or play news music at the beginning?
 5. Three, two, one, **ACTION**! Perform your breaking news report for your family, or even ask someone to film it.
 6. Great work, you have produced a news report! Remember that good journalists like you only include the **FACTS** in reports.

@BBCNews: London Zoo have stated that Kumbuka was safely returned to his den before 7pm after drinking 5 litres of squash in the staff area

@NoMoreZoos: dangerous animals have escaped from 50 zoos in the last year, we think this is why zoos should be banned

@ZSLlondonzoo: Gorilla escape update, 5.30PM: We can confirm that all visitors have now been safely evacuated from the ZOO.

@gorillanewsuk: I reckon the gorilla escaped because he was angry at all of the stupid visitors banging on the glass all day.

@JimBOB: I heard tonnes of visitors are locked inside the buildings at London Zoo while the gorilla is banging on the glass at them! Watch out people!

@ZSLlondonzoo: We can confirm that at 5.15pm this evening, a gorilla escaped from his den into a staff only corridor as a door was not properly secured. This is an ongoing situation.

@lucy: I feel sorry for the gorilla. If I was in a glass cage with people staring at me all day, I'd want to escape too!

@JimBOB: Apparently, a huge silverback gorilla at London Zoo smashed through his den and escaped! Gorilla on the rampage!



Language of fact

He **confirmed**...
that...

Evidence shows

She **stated** that...

It is **proven** that...

Language of opinion

I **feel**...

I **think**...

I **like/don't like**...

She **believes** that...

Language of rumour

Apparently...

I **heard**...

It is **rumoured** that...

It **seems** that...

Language of speculation (guesses)

I **wonder** if...

I **reckon**...

I **bet** that...

They **suspect**...

NEWS

News.
WISE



**Gorilla on
the loose!**

Hello and welcome to NewsWise. I'm [say your name] and we have breaking news!

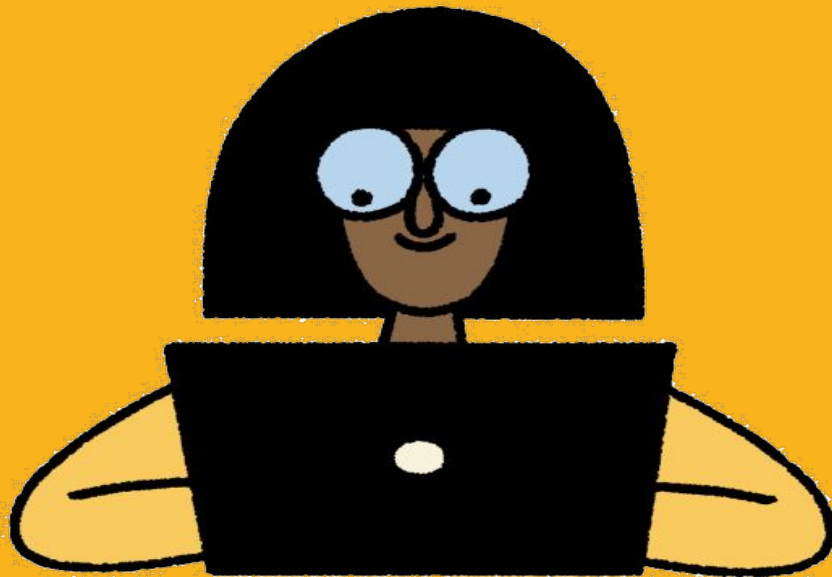
[Insert fact 1 here]

[Insert fact 2 here]

[Insert fact 3 here]

This has been [say your name] reporting for NewsWise. Thanks for watching, goodbye!

**Don't trust pictures
on the internet!**



Real or fake photo quiz

Find a selection of fake and real photos and have participants vote on whether they're fake or real. For bonus points, they have to identify whether the fake photos are miscaptioned, Photoshopped/ edited or use forced perspective. We recommend sites like snopes.com, fullfact.org, africacheck.org and reuters.com/fact-check for stories and images that have been checked and verified or debunked.

Caption competition



Miniature dinosaurs discovered

Pick any interesting or funny photo and challenge participants to come up with a caption to change the meaning of the photo.

Question: What are the consequences of misleading or inaccurate captions?

Forced perspective



Forced perspective is another way photos can be misleading. It can be used to make things look like they're a different size, closer together or further apart.

Challenge participants to come up with their own forced perspective photos, using devices available in the library or family members' devices.

Remember to also take a picture of how the forced perspective photo was made so you don't mislead people!

Understanding that information is targeted



Targeting profiles

Participants use the character profiles to sort the **Targeted information** cards into the order they would offer the content to each person. This is what websites do! (Note: the headlines provided have been developed for the purpose of this activity and are not true stories).

Depending on the space available to you, this activity can work in different ways:

- Participants work individually or in small groups to sort the printed cards

Or

- Assign different people each profile, putting them into character as Nav, Rowan and Sammi. You can also come up with additional characters or participants can do this.
- Read out a headline from Targeted information.
- Participants have to run to the person whose profile they would show this content to first. Eg, if you said 'New BMX the best yet say pro-riders', participants should run to the person representing Nav.
- You could also do this by having the profiles displayed in different parts of the room, rather than having people in character.

Background knowledge

- When we go online, we enter a world where computers and companies are tracking what we are watching and reading.
- Websites, including search engines and news providers, 'follow' their audience, which means they note how long users spend on their sites, which videos/pages people are looking at and what page/video/article they click on next.
- Companies can target that person with information they like and will therefore keep them on their website for longer.

Targeted information

NewsWise



New BMX the best yet say pro-riders!	Teenage blogger releases new cook book	This week's all new top 40 pop chart!	New! Fab dance routines to match top chart tunes!
Unicorns voted most popular party theme amongst children aged 5-8	There will be another Harry Potter soon says top writer!	Help save rainforest animals – how you can donate to make a difference	Skateboarding film set to be box office favourite
Top 10 guitar practice sheets from the internet	Healthy meals for teenagers on the go...	Mo shows you how - guitar and drums for beginners	Top football team score record number of goals

Targeting your audience



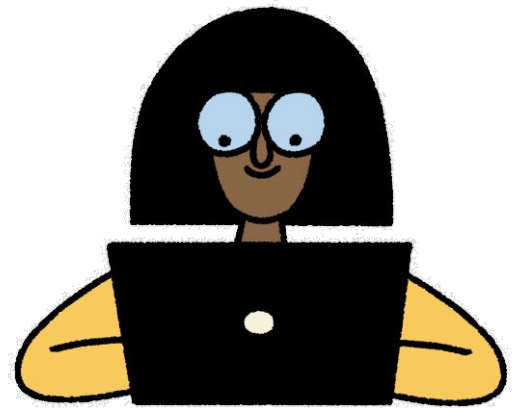
Name: Nav

Age: 13

Really loves: skateboarding, BMX, playing drums

Other Likes: pop music, reading, cooking

Targeting your audience



Name: Rowan

Age: 11

Really loves: playing guitar, science fiction films and books

Other Likes: online guitar tutorials, pop music, sport

Targeting your audience



Name: Sammi

Age: 12

Really loves: animals, unicorns, dancing

Other Likes: watching films, football

Targeting your audience

Name:

Age:

Really loves:

Other Likes:

Hook the reader

Participants play in pairs.

Player 1 selects 1 - 3 cards with an interest on (eg gymnastics, football, marine animals). They imagine these are their main interests.

Player 2 selects words from their list, or they can choose some of their own. If the word relates to one of player 1's interests, player 1 will say 'yes' and player 2 should pick another word. If the word isn't related to player 1's interests, they will say 'no'. Player 2 should use this information to help them choose words related to player 1's interests.

After 3 'nos', the players should swap over.

Background knowledge

- When we go online, we enter a world where computers and companies are tracking what we are watching and reading.
- Companies can target that person with information they like and will therefore keep them on their website for longer.
- It also means companies can 'feed' information to people, eg if a person reads about bikes, adverts for local bike shops might pop up or articles/information related to cycling and similar sports might be directed at them.
- Organisations can also try to change someone's mind about something or make them think a certain way - a person might like cats and always read about cats but if they are always shown information about fish too, they could be persuaded to start searching for fish as well.
- This can become a problem if people get hooked on information that is untrue, hurtful or harmful to others (such as in the case of extremism).



HOOK THE READER!

Player 1

- Select one, two or three cards.
- Imagine these are your main interests.
- Your opponent (player 2) has to target the correct information to you to keep you interested for as long as possible.
- If the word they say relates to one of your areas of interest, say 'Yes' they will keep going until they get a 'No'. They have 3 chances after getting a 'No' then stop and swap over.

ART AND CRAFT

MUSIC

GYMNASTICS

FOOTBALL

FARM ANIMALS

MARINE ANIMALS

HOOK THE READER!

Player 2

- Can you target the correct information to you to keep your opponent interested for as long as possible? Select words from the list below (you don't need to say them in this order) or choose some of your own.
- If the word you say relates to one of their interests, they will say 'Yes' - keep going! If not, they will say 'No' - use your knowledge of their interests to help you choose a different word next time. After 3 'No's' stop and swap over.

FISH

BALL

POP

OCTOPUS

SAND

PAINT

KNITTING

PAPER

COW

TEAM

GOAL

SQUID

SHEEP

HANDSTAND

DOG

GUITAR

DANCE

SONG

RUN

SCORE

HEADSTAND

WIN

CAT

SEAHORSE

BALANCE

PEN

WHALE

FORWARD ROLL

SEWING

DUCK

DOLPHIN

CHICKEN

OCEAN

KICK UPS

RADIO

CHART

DIVE

BACKWARD ROLL

HEADER

FITNESS

CONCERTS

BANDS/DJ

DRUMS

BOOT

PENCIL

ARTISTS

CRAB

HORSE

JUMP

GYMNAST

TROPHY

FABRIC

GLUE

DRAWING

Feedback

We hope you have enjoyed using the NewsWise resources in your library!

So that we can continue to improve our resources for everybody, we'd really appreciate if you could take a few minutes to complete this short survey.

You can follow this link: <https://bit.ly/nwresourcesfollowup> or scan the QR code below.

For more from NewsWise, visit theguardianfoundation.org/programmes/newswise

Thank you!

