

Sports Reporter

Goals

- To encourage students to acknowledge athletic achievement and fitness at every level
- To honor the achievements of a friend, classmate, or local athlete
- To practice interviewing and writing skills

 Sports News 
SPORTS INTERVIEW
Reporter's Name: _____
Name of Athlete: _____
Sport or Activity: _____
When and how did you get started? _____
What was your biggest challenge? _____
What are you most proud of? _____
What advice would you give young people who want to follow in your footsteps? _____ _____

Overview: Students write about a real or imaginary game or competition and describe their feelings about the outcome.

Materials

- “Sports Interview” and “Sports Story” templates
- Sample sports interview from newspaper, magazine, television, radio, or the internet

Directions

1. Introduce the activity by sharing a sample sports interview from the newspaper, magazine, internet, or another source. Ask students what caught their attention. What else would they like to know? What questions would they have asked?
2. Tell students they will interview friends, classmates, relatives, or local athletes and write news stories about them. Ask each student to identify someone they would like to interview. Encourage students to consider all kinds and levels of accomplishments. If you want, students can work in pairs on a single interview or can interview each other. You can also invite an athlete to your classroom and have students conduct the interview as a class.

3. Give each student the “Sports Interview” template to complete during the interview. Encourage students to think of additional questions they would like to ask and write them on the back. Remind students to keep careful notes. If they want, they can ask permission to take pictures or record the interview.
4. Before students begin writing, ask about the people they interviewed. What were their biggest challenges? What were they especially proud of? What impressed students most? Ask students what they think will interest readers.
5. Have students use the “Sports Story” template to write their story. Tell them to decide the main point of their story and organize supporting facts in logical order. Suggest they consider the traditional questions - who, what, where, why, when, and how - and include at least one quote. Then have them choose an attention-grabbing title.

Stationery Studio Extensions

- Publish a classroom newspaper and feature students’ interviews, or submit the interviews for publication in a school newspaper or online.
- Have students choose a design and create an award or certificate honoring the athlete’s accomplishment.
- Invite the featured athletes to a classroom ceremony in which students present their certificates. If you want, make the ceremony part of a rally or assembly.
- Have students choose an appropriate border and use the friendly letter format to write personal letters inviting the athlete(s) to the awards ceremony.
- Suggest students interview other people they find interesting and write stories about them.