



### **Activity: Newsroom Mystery: Who's Missing from the e-Edition?**

Objective: Students become digital newsroom detectives exploring the Spokesman-Review e-Edition. Their mission: investigate which voices or topics appear in today's paper — and who's missing — then create a new article, drawing, or digital "front-page feature" to fill the gap.

Materials:

- Access to the Spokesman-Review e-Edition (each student, pair, or group)
- ["Digital Case File" worksheet](#)
- Notebook paper or Google Doc for story writing

#### ***Part 1: The Digital Investigation (15 minutes):***

Students open the Spokesman-Review e-Edition and explore 2–3 sections such as:

- Front Page / Local News
- Sports
- Features / Entertainment
- Opinion / Letters to the Editor

As they browse, they note:

- What kinds of stories do they see?
- Who is mentioned or quoted?
- What topics or people are missing?

Encourage them to look for patterns — for example:

- Lots of adult voices, but no kids.
- Many sports stories, but none about art or animals.
- Stories from big towns, but not small neighborhoods.

*Tip for younger grades: share your screen and explore together as a class. Have them shout out what they see ("That story's about firefighters!" "I see a picture of a puppy!").*

***Part 2: The Rewrite (20 minutes):***

Each student or team fills out their Digital Case File:

- Who's missing? (e.g., kids, animals, teachers, neighbors)
- Why should they be included?
- Headline: a catchy title for their new story
- What happens in their story?
- Where does it take place?
- How does it make readers feel or help the community?

They then write or draw their “missing” article — either directly on the worksheet, in a Google Doc, or on paper.

*Older students (grades 4–5) can write short paragraphs; younger ones (grades 1–3) can illustrate their article and add a one-sentence caption.*

***Part 3: The Press Conference (10 minutes):***

Students present their “found story” to the class as if they’re reporters breaking the news.

They can show their e-Edition screenshot for reference and explain:

- What section of the paper inspired them
- Who they decided to feature
- Why their story matters

*Optional: record short “digital news reports” or display their stories on a classroom Padlet or bulletin board titled “The Stories We Found!”*