TOPIC: The Newspaper

FOCUS OF ACTIVITIES: A newspaper organizes information that usually includes a front page, different sections, pictures and advertising. The focus for this activity will be on the following -- reading for information, understanding written material and organizing information in a variety of ways.

INSTRUCTIONS:
Supply your child with a newspaper which may include a newspaper in your child's first language.

ACTIVITIES:
1. Examine the newspaper.

2. As you read the newspaper, think about the following questions:
   
   Find the name of the newspaper. Where is it located?
   
   Read the headlines. What topics are included on the front page?
   
   How are these topics arranged on the front page? Where are the most and least important stories placed?
   
   Look at the pictures and the graphics. How do these help attract readers?

3. Complete the chart on page 2.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Newspaper</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location of newspaper name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List Headlines/Topics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List Key Features:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Issue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section Names</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Types of Pictures/Graphics (e.g., photos, advertisements, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of pages</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TOPIC: The Comics

FOCUS OF ACTIVITIES:
The comics are a popular part of any newspaper. Various comic strips appeal to different senses of humour. Many of the most popular comic strips can be found in newspapers all over the world. The skills for the following activities will focus on reading for information, understanding written material, organizing information in a variety of ways, writing for a specific purpose and creating illustrations that support written work.

INSTRUCTIONS:
Read comic strips together with your child and discuss your favourites. Talk about what makes a comic funny.

ACTIVITIES:
1. Find your favourite comic strip in the newspaper.
2. List the characters in the comic and describe where the comic takes place.
3. Draw on a white piece of paper five boxes to make a blank comic strip. Write and illustrate what could happen in the next five frames of this comic.

4. Ask someone to help you edit and revise your comic strip.
5. Share your comic strip with a friend.
TOPIC: Sports

FOCUS OF ACTIVITIES:
- Reading for information
- Understanding written material
- Organizing information
- Writing for a specific purpose
- Creating illustrations that support written work

INSTRUCTIONS:
The Sports section of any newspaper often includes information on a variety of sports, athletes and special events. Your child may need some help if any words in the reading passage are unfamiliar. Provide access to a library, internet, magazines and/or books.

ACTIVITIES:
1. Find the sports section of the newspaper and choose a story about a sport or athlete you are interested in.

2. Research using newspapers, magazines, the internet, personal interviews and/or your local library, about what athletes must do in order to train for their sport.

3. Write a report, using these headings: Name of Sport/Athlete, Description, Training Routine, Training Places and Biography of Star Athlete.

4. Include a short biography of a star athlete in that sport.

5. Ask someone to edit your work.

6. Use a dictionary and thesaurus to correct spelling.

7. Share your report with your family.