

# Newspaper-Based Readers' Theater

Newspaper articles can easily be turned into readers' theater pieces that can be read dramatically by a group of four or five students.

## Cast of Characters

Narrator \_\_\_\_\_

Character 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Character 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Character 3 \_\_\_\_\_

## Script

Portion of Article to Retell: \_\_\_\_\_

Sound Effects: \_\_\_\_\_

Props: \_\_\_\_\_

Quotes: \_\_\_\_\_

Main Idea of the Article: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Directions:

Read a newspaper article and take notes about the key information in the story. Have one student in your group retell the key points as others add important details. Choose a narrator, and divide the roles of the possible characters among the rest of your group. Group members may take on more than one role.

Next, turn your retelling into an actual script with narration, sound effects, dialogue, and simple gestures. If there are quotes in the story, use them. You don't need to tell the entire story—you may decide to focus on only one part of the article. Determine the main idea of the story you are retelling.

Once the script is written, edit and revise it at least two times. Make a copy for each member and perform the skit.

### RUBRIC

### Self-Check

1. I read a newspaper article, took notes, and participated in my group's retelling.
2. I helped to write dialogue, narration, sound effects, and simple gestures for the script.
3. I helped to edit and revise the script.
4. I assumed the role of at least one character from the article and performed the script.