

## Writing a Science Newspaper

This is the culminating activity for the *Feeding Frenzy Teaching Box* on Seasonal Upwelling. You will be assuming the role of a newspaper reporter. You will be able to work in groups to research, analyze and present opinions on what you have learned. Your task is to produce a newspaper designed to convey information on topics studied in this *Feeding Frenzy* unit. Parameters for your newspaper are:

1. (30 points) Headline stories (maybe 3) describing the exciting seasonal events that are occurring offshore in the oceans. Articles must be at least 1 page long. Think of “attention grabbing” headline titles such as “Thousands of Bodies Lost At Sea!”
2. (20 points) A persuasive essay on a topic selected from the list below. This will become the feature editorial in your newspaper. Be sure to include at least three pieces of evidence to support your explanation.
  - a. Hypothesize and explain what would happen in the oceans if there were an El Nino event in the Spring months
  - b. Hypothesize and explain what would happen in the oceans if the Spring plankton bloom becomes toxic
  - c. Hypothesize and explain what would happen in the oceans if the fishing industry “over fishes” during the fall and winter months
  - d. Hypothesize and explain why upwelling zones are important economic resources to the fishing industry and/or to coastal communities (bird watching and whale watching companies have increased business)
  - e. Hypothesize and explain what would happen if there were no continents
  - f. Hypothesize and explain where upwelling occurs in the Southern Hemisphere
3. (20 points) Compose letters to the editor that summarize the group’s opinion of any aspect of these events. Letter must contain 4-5 facts summarized from the above articles. Possible topics to choose from:
  - a. The fishing industry wants the restrictions lifted, so that they can fish every day from June through October
  - b. Fishermen want to have open hunting on adult sea lions that can eat 60 pounds of fish a day
  - c. Residential owners are tired of the seasonal traffic of fishermen, birders, and whale watchers and want to restrict usage of the dock area during the months of June through October
  - d. “Save the Krill” – “Thousands of organisms arrive to consume billions of Krill”
  - e. (10 points) **Comic strip(s)**: You must include 20 frames in your newspaper, but the frames can be split into numerous comics (3 frames, 5 frames, etc., totaling 20) or one long 20-frame comic. **Or, include 4 Editorial Cartoons.**
4. (10 points) Illustrations for each article that provide a visual representation of the important points of the article (example: Lunge Feeding Whales, Seabirds with juvenile rockfish in their mouths, etc.)

Modified from an activity created by Michael Szesze, Program Supervisor for Science, .Montgomery County Public Schools: (<http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/curriculum/science/instr/wrscinews.htm>) for:

5. (10 points ) Optional: Advertisements. Compose 5 advertisements based on upwelling themes. (Example: “Krill Cakes for Sale --- A Super Source of Protein”

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