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**Reading Fun:** Scan the newspaper (run your eyes quickly over the headlines and read!) to find five fun facts. Find one from each section of the newspaper, if you can. Create a list of your fun facts in your reading response journal or on a separate piece of paper. Write your name at the top of the paper. Finally, clip your fun facts from the five news articles or briefs from the newspaper and staple it to your list.

Put a check mark in a box each time you choose this menu item. When you've done it four times, choose another one! Four times is the limit for the school year!

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**Question Maker:** Scan the newspaper (run your eyes quickly over the headlines and read!) to find an article that interests you. Using the question matrix (found in your red folder), create and write down at least 3 questions that you think the reporter asked during interviews to get the information for his/her article. Next, create two of your own questions for information you would have liked to read about in the article. What questions were left unanswered for you? Ask them! Write your name at the top of the paper. Finally, clip your news article from the newspaper and staple it to your questions.

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**Go for the Humor:** Scan the newspaper for two things that tickle your funnybone, (besides the comic strips!) Look for wacky people/characters, strange situations, funny words, great dialogue, word play, surprises, photographs, gross & yucky stuff or silliness. For each one, write 2-3 sentences why it is funny to you. Write your name at the top of the paper. Finally, clip your 2 items from the newspaper and staple it to your writing.

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**Shame on You!:** Find an example of someone in the newspaper who has done something that is morally or legally wrong. Write them a business letter (in correct format – look for it in your language arts textbook). In this letter, explain your dismay with their actions. Be specific, let them know why you are angry, what if anything you intend to do about it, and what they should do to rectify the situation. Write your name at the top of your paper. Finally, clip your article from the newspaper and staple it to your writing.

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**Ponder it with Poetry:** Read an article that is of high interest to you in the newspaper. Read the article a second time, and write down several key words that are important to the story. Next, write a haiku, a rhyming limerick, or a non-rhyming free verse poem about what you read in the article. Write your name at top of your paper. Finally, clip your article from the newspaper and staple it to your writing.

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