



Amy Namey in Ace Reporter

Written by: Megan McDonald

Illustrated by: Erwin Madrid

Amy Namey, Ace Reporter, is on the hunt for a good news story. But not a lot happens in the town of Frog Neck Lake. So what's a budding reporter to do? Team up with Judy Moody! With Judy along to sniff out a story, anything can happen.

Lexile: 390 **AR Level:** 2.9

Author Website: www.judymoody.com and <http://www.meganmcdonald.net/>

Illustrator Website: <http://www.shannonassociates.com/kidshannon/artists/erwinmadrid>

Author interview: <http://www.readingrockets.org/books/interviews/mcdonald>

Food: A baloney sandwich with double mustard and one whole dill pickle. (Amy used Judy's sandwich for bait when they went sea monster hunting, pg. 30)

Eraser: Pencil Shaped Erasers from Oriental Trading. Product #IN-13653717



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Nonfiction Titles:

Christensen, Bonnie, *The Daring Nellie Bly: America's Star Reporter*.

Macy, Sue, *Miss Mary Reporting: The True Story of Sportswriter Mary*.

Minden, Cecilia, *How to Write a News Article*.

Introduction: Provide examples of newspapers, ask students if they or their family reads the newspaper. Ask if they have ever thought about being a news reporter. Show students the pictures and bios of children their age who are the Scholastic News Kids Press Corps at: <http://magazines.scholastic.com/kids-press/Meet-the-Kid-Reporters> and discuss what they would write about if they had the opportunity to write for Scholastic News.

Story time Activities:

Students can work in teams to create their own newspaper. Using Read Write Think website's printing press at: <http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/student-interactives/printing-press-30036.html>. Each team works on their own story and then all the groups come together to create their newspaper.

Read a story about someone in the news you would like to know more about. Pretend you are going to interview that person and write questions you would ask.

Read an article in the newspaper about something that happened in your community. How do you feel about it? Happy, angry, worried? Write your feelings down as a letter to the editor.

Using the newspaper, cut out words or pictures to complete the following sentences. I want....., I like....., I dislike....., I have....., I live.....

Ask students to find a photo in the newspaper and have them write their own headline and/or short article to match the picture.

Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean to be *above the fold*?

Answer: (pg. 10) The story in the newspaper is on page one at the top (it is considered a big deal).

2. Who is the famous Around-the-World Reporter that Amy wants to be like?

- A. Tom Brokaw C. Nellie Bly
B. Barbara Walters D. Katie Couric

Answer: C. Nellie Bly (pg. 37)

3. What does Amy end up writing about for her above the fold article in her newspaper that ends in a cliffhanger?

Answer: (pg. 48) The Great Virginia Sea Serpent

4. What is the name of Amy's newspaper and why does she call it that?

Answer: (pg. 6) The Big Scoop

5. If you were a newspaper reporter, what would you want to write about?
(examples might include: sports, current events, entertainment)