

## WHY USE THE NEWSPAPER?

Most of us want to read what interests us! Your adult student is no different and could very well find something in the newspaper that interests him or her. It could be a recipe, sports page, crossword puzzle, or an advertisement. Interest and motivation are key to teaching an adult to read.

Each edition of the newspaper offers activities that reinforce listening, speaking, reading, and writing – all vital communication skills.

Other reasons to incorporate newspaper use into your lesson plans include that it:

- Is relevant to adults
- Is inexpensive, easily available, and consumable
- Contains practical vocabulary
- Uses different type sizes and styles
- Has short selections: pictures, cartoons, stories, letters, charts, maps
- Teaches current events and ties non-readers back into the world
- Forces students to search for, identify, and retrieve their own individual answers. (“Look it up!” increases the likelihood of retention.)
- Has autonomous lessons. Even if the student discontinues in the literacy program, chances are he will have learned a valuable life skill from a newspaper activity.
- Signifies that the person carrying it can read