



NEWS & MEDIA LITERACY

We are critical  
thinkers & creators.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP | GRADE 8

# This Just In!

 **common sense** education®



# Essential Question

How should we react to breaking news?

# Learning Objectives

1

Define breaking news and understand why individuals and news outlets want to be first to report a story.



2

Analyze breaking news alerts to identify clues of false or incomplete information.



3

Reflect on the consequences of reacting right away to breaking news alerts.



## WARM UP: REFLECT

A graphic with a red background featuring a faint world map. The words "Breaking News" are written in a large, bold, white, italicized font with a slight shadow effect.

# *Breaking News*

- Have you ever seen a breaking news alert like this one?
- How did/does it make you feel?



# Breaking news

Information being reported about an event that has just happened or is currently occurring



# What are the benefits of being the first to "break" news?

For Individuals

For News Outlets



# 24/7 News Cycle

24-hour, seven-day-a-week investigating and reporting of news via television, radio, print, online, and mobile app devices



Metro News

25m ago

## Breaking News: Skatepark Closure

Meeting agenda indicates Common Sense City Council in secret meetings to close skatepark. Will local skaters be left hanging? Officials have not yet been reached for comment.



**Sam T**

19 minutes

My uncle works for the parks department. He says skateparks cost a lot to maintain. He said the park will reopen but he thinks the city will start charging an admission fee.



Like



Comment



That's not fair! 😞



**My Rights** @MyRights • 10m

Skateparks are the latest casualty in a community that doesn't value the outdoors. Here we go again!! Remember the rock wall!! What about our rights???



City council cites traffic concerns in 'No' vote for downtown rock climbing wall

Metronewsonline.com, 11/20/2011

🗨️ 2





# ACTIVITY: BREAKING DOWN BREAKING NEWS

Alert No. 1 uses words and phrases that show there's likely more information to come.


Alerts No. 2 and 3 are not from established news organizations. News organizations follow professional standards and practices to verify news reports and make corrections when they get facts wrong.

Alert No. 3 is presenting the story in a particular way, as if it is connected to something that happened several years before. The author of this post wants people to believe that their rights are being taken away. This is an example of bias.



Metro News 25m ago


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# Bias



Showing a strong opinion or preference for or against something or someone



## ANALYZE: CRITICAL EYE FOR BREAKING NEWS TIPS

Before reacting, slow down and ...

🔍 **Check** the **source**. Is the news from a reliable news organization?

- ★ If not, it may be questionable. See if other news organizations are reporting the same thing.

🔍 **Look** to see **if there's more information to come**. Does the article mention important details that aren't yet known?

- ★ If so, it may be better to wait for the whole story before deciding what to think or sharing.

🔍 **Analyze** for **bias**. Does the author or source organization have an agenda or purpose for talking about the story?

- ★ If so, look for a different source.



## ACTIVITY: CANCELED CONCERT?



**CS Pavilion** @csPavilion • 5m

We are sorry to report the promoters of Summer Fest have decided to cancel the concert scheduled for tomorrow. For info regarding rescheduling or refunds, please contact TicketChief directly. We are sorry for the inconvenience.



**Sheena** @mu\$icFAN04 • 3m

No WAY! I can't get thru to TicketChief. Boo!



**Miles** @truthTeller08 • 1m

I heard it's just being moved to next week.

Metro News

5m ago

## Breaking News: Concert Cancelled

The Summer Fest concert scheduled to take place at the county fairgrounds tomorrow has been cancelled.



**summer\_\$ings14**



**summer\_\$ings14**

I loved Summer Fest last year. I can't believe it's cancelled!!! I just heard we probably won't get a refund because the ticket form says they only refund for bad weather!!!! 😞



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