

# Little News Ears

## Lesson Plan Suggestions

BoxerBlu & Bram – News for 4 Year-Olds

Season 1 – Episode 8 - July 17, 2019

Keywords: red, carrots, Nelly Bly, tweets



Item #1 – Title: ‘Arby’s Has an Answer to Plant-Based Meat: A Meat-Based Carrot’

Author: David Yaffe-Bellany

Source: The New York Times

Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/16/business/arbys-fake-carrot.html>

### Activity: Developing Creativity – Invented Foods

Video: [How to Make a Turducken](#)

Directions:

1. After discussing Arby’s creation, discuss the Turducken.
2. Brainstorm the children’s wildest creations.
3. Encourage the students to draw combinations of their favorite foods, no matter how ‘illogical’ or ‘disgusting’ they may be.

Item #2 – Title: ‘A Nellie Bly Memorial Is Being Planned for New York City’s Roosevelt Island’

Authors: Ellen Gutoskey

Source: Mental Floss

Link: <http://mentalfloss.com/article/588367/nellie-bly-memorial-planned-new-york-city-roosevelt-island>

**Direction Instruction:** Review [relevant facts about Nelly Bly](#) and discuss with the students how important it is to not be afraid to say what is true.

**Read-Aloud:** The Emperor’s New Clothes or [Video](#) with Discussion

Item #3 – ‘A team of chemists are searching for a new red pigment’

Author: The Economist

Source: The Economist

Link: <https://www.economist.com/science-and-technology/2019/07/11/a-team-of-chemists-are-searching-for-a-new-red-pigment>

### Activity: Developing Creativity – An Invented Color

1. Name a few colors that do not exist and ask your students to try to visualize them. Example: fluorescent brown.
2. Brainstorm color ideas.
3. With paint (or crayons), challenge the students to create colors that do not exist.
4. After the activity, ask students what other materials they could use next time to come closer to the color they envision.

Item #4– Title: ‘The House has condemned Donald Trump’s racist tweets. Now what?’

Author: Chris Cillizza

Source: CNN

Link: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/07/17/politics/donald-trump-racist-house-condemned/index.html>

**Direction Instruction:** What Is Twitter?

1. Show the students a Twitter home page or search for *Twitter example* on Google Images.
2. Explain that Twitter is a way for people to say what they think in ‘short bursts’ in real time.
3. Explain it’s like instead of raising your hand to speak, it’s like speaking at the same time, and everyone can hear what you think.
4. Explain that what you post online is ‘forever’ and should be taken very seriously as the students get older.

Item #5 - Title: ‘Plane crashes into Ocean City beach: Police’

Author: Matthew Prensky

Source: Delmarvanow.com

Link: <https://www.delmarvanow.com/story/news/local/maryland/2019/07/16/plane-crashes-into-ocean-city-beach-police/1751185001/>

**Activity – STEAM – Designing the Best Paper Airplane**

1. Show the students a way to make paper airplanes that they are able to manage at their ability level.  
(even if it looks nothing like a paper airplane, it is perfectly ok)
2. Each student gets a few attempts to create an airplane and throw it.
3. Find a fair way to have a friendly competition to see whose airplane goes the farthest.
4. Discuss what features may be contributing to a plane ‘flying’ the furthest.