ACTIVITY: SCAVENGER HUNTS - 12 LIFE SKILL TOPICS

Competency Area:
All

Activity Objective:
Students use scanning skills to locate specific items in the newspaper.

Newspaper section:
All

Required Class Time:
Varies according to the teacher’s lesson plan and learners’ proficiency level. A hunt can be a 15 minute warm-up or a 30-minute activity.

Target Vocabulary:
Scavenger hunt, find
Other vocabulary according to the specific hunt

Grammar points:
None

Materials List:
Newspapers, worksheets for each learner

In-Class Procedure
1. Warm up: Explain the meaning of “scavenger hunt”. Explain the purpose of scanning - to find specific details in a text quickly.
2. Give each learner a newspaper and a worksheet. Ask learners to read the entire list of search items before beginning to scan. Clarify any unknown vocabulary
3. Remind learners that each scavenger hunt is a general list of items commonly found in a typical newspaper on that life skill topic. Thus, all of the items on the list might not appear in any particular day’s newspaper. Explain that learners don’t need to find the items in order - they can write the answer to any item on the list whenever they find it.
4. Announce a time limit and write it on the board. Let learners begin.
5. When the time limit is up, have learners share their results in small groups.
TAKE-HOME ACTIVITIES:

For adult learner:
Ask learners to write a 10-item scavenger hunt based on a particular day’s newspaper as described in the Tips and Options section below. Learners can exchange hunts the next day and do their partner’s hunt in class.

For learner and child(ren):
Ages 3-8: Parents and young children can make their own impromptu hunts using the “I Spy” technique. For example, sitting together with the newspaper, the parent and child can take turns saying, “I spy a picture of a woman wearing a big hat,” “I spy the word ‘girls’,” “I spy a dollar sign”, “I spy a triangle”, etc.

Grades 1-4: Learners and their children can use the “For Parents and Children” scavenger hunt worksheet provided in this section. Children can either look for the pictures or the words based on their literacy level.

Tips and Options:
1. Learners can be divided into teams. The team that finds the most items on the scavenger hunt within the given time limit wins.
2. Teachers or learners can write scavenger hunts based on a particular day’s newspaper. These hunts will be specifically tailored to the photos, headlines, advertisements and news articles of that day’s paper.
ABOUT THE NEWSPAPER

The items below are all about using newspapers. First, read the whole list. Then quickly scan the newspaper to find as many items as you can. Write a short description of your answer. Also write the page number where you found your answer.

Example: Find the name of western city: Denver, Colorado page 12B

1. Find a funny headline ____________________________
2. Find a letter ____________________________
3. Find the last page number of the Front Page section ____________________________
4. Find the name of the newspaper’s editor ____________________________
5. Find a color photograph ____________________________
6. Find today’s temperature ____________________________
7. Find the name of a female journalist ____________________________
8. Find a comic strip ____________________________
9. Find the name of a male columnist ____________________________
10. Find the telephone number of the newspaper offices ____________________________
11. Find an article about an athlete ____________________________
12. Find an obituary ____________________________
13. Find a full-page advertisement ____________________________
14. Find a crossword puzzle ____________________________
GOING PLACES

The items below are all about transportation. First, read the whole list. Then quickly scan the newspaper to find as many items as you can. Write a short description of your answer. Also write the page number where you found your answer.

Example: Find the name of western city: Denver, Colorado page 12B

1. Find the name of an airline ____________________________
2. Find a vacation destination ____________________________
3. Find a state map ____________________________
4. Find a picture of a car ____________________________
5. Find an advertisement for an air fare __________________
6. Find an abbreviation for “street” ______________________
7. Find a weather map ____________________________
8. Find a picture of a traffic accident _____________________
9. Find the word “bus” ____________________________
10. Find a classified ad for a used car ____________________
11. Find the word “travel” or “tourism” __________________
12. Find an advertisement for auto tires __________________
13. Your choice (please describe) ________________________
IN OUR COMMUNITY

The items below are all about community services. First, read the whole list. Then quickly scan the newspaper to find as many items as you can. Write a short description of your answer. Also write the page number where you found your answer.

Example: Find the name of western city: Denver, Colorado page 12B

1. Find a headline about a school ________________________________
2. Find the word “volunteer” _________________________________
3. Find information about an American holiday __________________
4. Find the phone number of a service organization __________________
5. Find a picture of the state governor _________________________
6. Find the word “senator” ________________________________
7. Find an article about the fire department _____________________
8. Find information about an ethnic group ______________________
9. Find the word “community” ______________________________
10. Find a headline about Social Security, Medicare, or Medicaid ___________________________
11. Find the word “Police” _________________________________
12. Find a local map _________________________________________
13. Find information about a special event happening this weekend in your community ________________________________
14. Find the name of a crime _________________________________
15. Your choice (please describe) ______________________________
STAYING HEALTHY AND FIT

The items below are all about health. First, read the whole list. Then quickly scan the newspaper to find as many items as you can. Write a short description of your answer. Also write the page number where you found your answer.

Example: Find the name of western city: Denver, Colorado page 12B

1. Find an ad for a weight loss product or program _____________________
2. Find an article about pollution ____________________________________
3. Find the word “low fat” __________________________________________
4. Find the name of an illness _________________________________________
5. Find the abbreviation for dentist - D.D.S. __________________________
6. Find the word “hospital” _________________________________________
7. Find an advertisement for eyeglasses ________________________________
8. Find a picture of a person exercising _______________________________
9. Find a drawing of a part of the body ________________________________
10. Find an article about mental health _________________________________
11. Find the names of three sports ____________________________________
12. Find an employment ad for nurses _________________________________
13. Find the name of a local pharmacy _________________________________
14. Your choice (please describe) ____________________________________
The items below are all about employment. First, read the whole list. Then quickly scan the newspaper to find as many items as you can. Write a short description of your answer. Also write the page number where you found your answer.

Example:  Find the name of western city:  Denver, Colorado  page 12B

1. Find the word “economy” or “economic” ____________________________
2. Find a picture of a computer ______________________________________
3. Find an employment ad for an auto mechanic_______________________
4. Find the word “labor” __________________________________________
5. Find a picture of someone wearing a tie___________________________
6. Find the name of a large business in your community
   _______________________________________________________________
7. Find a picture of a politician ____________________________________
8. Find an employment ad for a cook ________________________________
9. Find the index to the classified advertisements _____________________
10. Find an article about employment in another country
    _______________________________________________________________
11. Find the word “hire” or “hiring” ________________________________
12. Find an ad for a local job fair ___________________________________
13. Find the word “job” or “jobless” _________________________________
14. Your choice (please describe) _________________________________
**HOME SWEET HOME**

The items below are all about housing. First, read the whole list. Then quickly scan the newspaper to find as many items as you can. Write a short description of your answer. Also write the page number where you found your answer.

*Example: Find the name of western city: Denver, Colorado page 12B*

1. Find the word “house” or “housing”  
2. Find an ad for a real estate company with pictures of realtors  
3. Find the name of a local business that sells furniture  
4. Find a drawing of a floor plan  
5. Find an ad for windows or doors  
6. Find the word “neighborhood”  
7. Find a picture of a single family home  
8. Find a local map  
9. Find an “apartment for rent” ad  
10. Find the word “garage”  
11. Find an ad for washers/dryers on sale  
12. Find the word “homeless”  
13. Find an address  
14. Your choice (please describe)
A SMART CONSUMER

The items below are all about consumer economics. First, read the whole list. Then quickly scan the newspaper to find as many items as you can. Write a short description of your answer. Also write the page number where you found your answer.

Example: Find the name of western city: Denver, Colorado  page 12B

1. Find a grocery coupon

2. Find the word “Sale”

3. Find a price higher than $100

4. Find the name of a local supermarket

5. Find an advertisement for women’s clothing

6. Find the word “money”

7. Find an ad for electronics equipment

8. Find a picture of a credit card

9. Find the word “consumer”

10. Find the name of a local bank

11. Find an advertisement for men’s shoes

12. Find the name of a local department store

13. Find an ad for pizza

14. Your choice (please describe):
The items below are interesting to children. First, read the whole list to your young child or let your older child read the list to you. Then look in the newspaper to find as many items as you can. Help your child write a short description of the answer. Also write the page number where you and your child found your answer.

Example: Find the name of a city: Denver, Colorado  page 12B

1. Find something to eat ________________________________
2. Find something to drink ________________________________
3. Find something to ride in or on ____________________________
4. Find something to wear _________________________________
5. Find an animal _________________________________________
6. Find something hot _____________________________________
7. Find something cold _____________________________________
8. Find something that uses electricity________________________
9. Find a boy _____________________________________________
10. Find a girl _____________________________________________
11. Find something that is big_______________________________
12. Find something that is small_____________________________
13. Find a number _________________________________________
14. Find big black print____________________________________
15. Find very, very small print______________________________
16. Find something that makes you smile ____________________
JUST ABOUT ME

The items below are all about personal choices. First, read the whole list. Then quickly scan the newspaper to find as many items as you can. Write a short description of your answer. Also write the page number where you found your answer.

Example: Find the name of western city: Denver, Colorado page 12B

1. Find an ad for something you want to buy _______________________

2. Find a new word you want to learn ______________________________

3. Find the number of your age plus 10 ___________________________

4. Find the word “family” ______________________________________

5. Find a picture of someone you would like to meet
   __________________________________________________________

6. Find an ad for a movie you have seen __________________________

7. Find a word that describes you ________________________________

8. Find the word “me”, “my” or “mine __________________________

9. Find a food you like to eat ________________________________

10. Find the name of a country you would like to visit
     _________________________________________________________

11. If you are female find the word “woman” or “women”
     _________________________________________________________

12. If you are male find the word “man” or “men”
     _________________________________________________________

13. Your choice (please describe) ________________________________
WHERE IN THE WORLD

The items below are all about world geography. First, read the whole list. Then quickly scan the newspaper to find as many items as you can. Write a short description of your answer. Also write the page number where you found your answer.

Example: Find the name of western city: Denver, Colorado page 12B

1. Find the name of a city in the eastern U.S. ________________________
2. Find the name of a capital city in South America ___________________________
3. Find a map of a country __________________________________________
4. Find the word “international” ______________________________________
5. Find an article from your home country ______________________________
6. Find the value of the Euro ________________________________________
7. Find the name of an ocean _________________________________________
8. Find the word “world” __________________________________________
9. Find an article from a country in Asia _____________________________
10. Find an article about international business ___________________________
11. Find the word “country” or “countries” _____________________________
12. Find a picture from another country ________________________________
13. Find the temperature in Paris, France ______________________________
14. Your choice (please describe) _____________________________________
THAT’S ENTERTAINMENT

The items below are all about recreation and entertainment. First, read the whole list. Then quickly scan the newspaper to find as many items as you can. Write a short description of your answer. Also write the page number where you found your answer.

Example: Find the name of western city: Denver, Colorado page 12B

1. Find the name of a movie theater in your town _____________________
2. Find the word “ticket” _________________________________
3. Find three names of team sports __________________________
4. Find information about an event that will happen outside ________________________________
5. Find an advertisement for a new book __________________________
6. Find a picture of a popular singer _____________________________
7. Find the cost of an event _________________________________
8. Find the word “film” _________________________________
9. Find the time that a new movie is playing __________________________
10. Find the television schedule for today __________________________
11. Find the word “dance” or “ballet” ______________________________
12. Find a drawing of a musical instrument __________________________
13. Find the word “museum” _________________________________
14. Your choice (please describe) ____________________________
NUMBERS IN THE NEWS

The items below are all about numbers. First, read the whole list. Then quickly scan the newspaper to find as many items as you can. Write a short description of your answer. Also write the page number where you found your answer.

Example: Find the name of western city: Denver, Colorado page 12B

1. Find a number less than 10 ________________________________
2. Find a money number ________________________________
3. Find a TV channel number ________________________________
4. Find a number written in words ________________________________
5. Find a date ________________________________
6. Find an address ________________________________
7. Find the fraction 1/2 or 1/4 ________________________________
8. Find a telephone number ________________________________
9. Find a percentage (%) ________________________________
10. Find a number greater than 1,000 ________________________________
11. Find a temperature ________________________________
12. Find someone’s age ________________________________
13. Find a time of day ________________________________
14. Your choice (please describe) ________________________________