

Lights, Camera, MEDIA Literacy!  
Lesson Plan # 12

**Topics:**

**Journal Writing**  
**Viewing Group Visual Reports**  
**NEWSIES**  
**Primary Source articles**

**Outcomes:**

Students will follow organizational procedures.  
Students will see, hear, and use applicable vocabulary.  
Students will view and react to group visual reports.  
Students will react to primary source articles about the Newsboy Strike of 1899.  
Students will compare the articles to the film adaptation NEWSIES.

**Materials:**

Writing journals  
LCD projector  
Chart paper  
Post-its  
Individual student pocket folders

**PROQUEST.com** ( licensed web site)

**DVD: *NEWSIES***

**BOOKS: *KIDS ON STRIKE* by S. C. Bartoletti**

**New Vocabulary: newsies, scabs**

## Sequence of Events:

### I. Journal Writing (15)

1. Prompt:

How did you feel about examining historical newspapers?

### II. Group Visual Reports (25)

1. Groups show their visual reports to the class.
2. Allow time for review, as well as questions.

### III. Proquest.com (15)

1. Show students the licensed website *PROQUEST* for *NY TIMES* articles beyond the front pages. After logging in...  
Click "MY PRODUCTS"  
Click: "HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS"
2. Under "*Advanced Search*," make sure that only "*general articles*" is checked. Type in the document title "*Newsboys*." Supply the dates "*between*" *July 22, 1899* and *July 22, 1899*.
3. When the article's title pops up, ask students if they have ever heard about the Newsboy Strike of 1899 that took place between July 18<sup>th</sup> and August 2<sup>nd</sup> of that year. Together read the article "*The Strike of the Newsboys*." Clarify any confusion with dialect and expressions used, such as **SCABS** who did not honor the strike.
4. Explain that in 1899 the newspaper was the only news media. There were no newsstands nor home delivery... no radio, no TV, no internet. Newspapers were sold by young boys on the cities' streets. These **NEWSIES** would yell "Extra. Extra. Read All about it"...and then shout out headlines to get the interest of people passing by. (no cars, no child labor laws at the time)

*Note: Photos pgs. 49-61 KIDS ON STRIKE by S. C. Bartoletti*

#### **IV. NEWSIES (130)**

1. Tell students that they will be watching a musical adaptation of the newsboy strike of 1899. As they watch, they should compare what they just learned with the depiction in the film **NEWSIES**. They should also consider the structure of the story using the LCL! 3x3 story questions for Acts, I, II, and III (see Lesson #6).

#### **DVD: NEWSIES**

2. Watch the entire film.
3. Discuss students' impressions of the strike and the film.

*(Bonus feature: **The Strike! The True Story...**  
Consider incorporating into a future substitute teacher lesson.)*

#### **V. Reflection: (15)**

1. Direct students to the hanging chart paper labeled:

**What did you learn about the Newsboy Strike of 1899?**

2. Hand out Post-its on which students write an item to post on the chart.
3. Review the comments on the Post-Its with the class, so students have a sense of what was learned. Make sure to clear up any misconceptions.