MAPS, GRAPHS, CHARTS

Scan one or more newspapers for maps, charts and graphs. How many do you find? Is the graphic a regular feature of the newspaper? Does it stand-alone as a visual sidebar or supplement a news story?

Informational, maps, graphs and charts

How many?

Map, Graph or Chart Topic	Section / Page	Regular feature	Stand alone or Supplement to news story

THINK more!

Evaluate several graphics. Does the graphic have an effective headline? Does the key make clear what the elements of the graph/chart represent? Is the graphic clean and uncluttered? Does the map or graphic convey significant details? Do the graphics make stories or the whole newspaper more readable? Do the graphics make the newspaper more appealing to the eye?

1

Find weather information in your newspaper:

1. Does the front page include weather information? What do learn about today's weather on the front page?

2. Where does the weather report and map appear in your newspaper? Does the weather appear in the same section and/or on the same page each day?

3. Does the newspaper include news stories about the weather and its impact on your community? What do you learn?

The weather in your town affects you most directly. Chart information from your newspaper's weather section and answer questions.

Your town

Today's prediction Hi Low	Wind, rain, snow, etc.	Air quality	Precipitation level

1. What's the range of temperatures predicted for today?

2. How do those predictions compare with actual temperatures recorded yesterday?

3. What time does the sun rise and set today?

4. What is the phase of the moon? Draw or describe.

5. What other information do you find? Fronts? Air pollution levels? UV ratings? High pressure systems? Barometer reading? Why do you need to know this information?

THINK more!

How does the weather in your home town and county affect you and the choices you make? Does the weather affect the way you dress and the activities you choose? Does the weather affect your work?

Informational, maps, graphs and charts

2

Select four cities in North Carolina that represent the different regions of the state (Mountains, Piedmont, Coastal Plains and Sandhills).

North Carolina cities	Region	Temperature Hi Low	Other weather conditions
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

Circle any city that is located in the same region as your town. If the weather in any city is similar to weather in your town, place a checkmark by the city. Place an "X" by the city with weather most different from your town's or county's weather.

THINK more!

Why is the weather in some cities similar to weather in your town? How does location affect the weather? How do mountains and bodies of water affect weather? What else affects weather? Scan the other weather charts in your newspaper and identify cities outside the state that have weather similar to the weather in your town.

3a

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Informational, maps, graphs and charts

TRAVEL North Carolina

Cut out the map of North Carolina on your weather page and paste it on the back or front of this sheet. Highlight your home county. Also, pinpoint four North Carolina cities. Count the counties between your county and each of the four cities. Estimate the distance.

Cities	Number of counties	Estimated distance
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		

THINK more!

Conduct research to figure out how far each city is from your hometown and list the actual distance. Estimate the time required to drive to each town. Use a road map to chart your course.

Before planning a trip to the city, what more do you need to know? How does each city attract visitors? What do you already know and what more do you want to know about attractions in the cities?

3b

Select five cities in the United States but outside North Carolina and five outside the United States. Chart high and low temperatures and other information you find in the weather report or in news stories. Locate each city on a classroom United States or world map.

Informational, maps, graphs and charts

Cities in United States	Temperatures High Low	Other
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Where is the weather hottest?_____coldest? _____
Where is the range the smallest? _____largest? _____
Which type of weather do you prefer? _____

Cities outside United States	Temperatures High Low	Other
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Where is the weather hottest?_____coldest? _____
Where is the range the smallest? _____largest? _____
Which type of weather do you prefer? _____

THINKmore! If you were able to visit any city (cities) today, which one(s) would you choose? If you traveled in and out of three of the cities and had to pack for the weather in each location, what would you pack? Check newspaper ads for clothes to pack and transportation ads in your newspaper that aid in planning your trip.

4

Informational, maps, graphs and charts

Keep a journal based on weather reported in news stories over 28 days or four weeks, particularly during times of year, such as hurricane season, when weather seems threatening. Newspapers may not have weather-related stories each day.

Month _____or 28-days starting_____

Sunday 1	Monday 2	Tuesday 3	Wed. 4	Thurs. 5	Fri 6	Sat. 7
Sunday 1	Monday 2	Tuesday 3	Wed. 4	Thurs. 5	Fri 6	Sat. 7
Sunday 1	Monday 2	Tuesday 3	Wed. 4	Thurs. 5	Fri 6	Sat. 7
Sunday 1	Monday 2	Tuesday 3	Wed. 4	Thurs. 5	Fri 6	Sat. 7

THINKmore! Highlight important weather words and phrases in the news stories. Use context clues for definitions and explanations of the terms.

What threatening or damaging weather did the newspaper report? Were those reports about weather in your community, region, state, nation or world? How does damaging weather outside your community affect you?

5

Cut out paste symbols that your newspaper uses to represent each type of weather:

SYMBOLS in weather

1. Sunny

2. Cloudy

3. Partly cloudy

4. Rain

5. Thunderstorm

6. Snow

Over time, cut out drawings that show phases of the moon and paste those below.

THINK more!

What emotions do you associate with the different weather conditions and phases of the moon? Write similes and metaphors that refer to weather. Example: as sunny as my street in summer.

6

Locate and list all of the places you find mentioned in your newspaper. List any place only once. Also provide page numbers. How many different places did you find?_____

After counting the different places, work with other students to name the states, countries and continents for each place or setting mentioned in your newspaper. Locate the places on classroom maps.

Places	Page numbers	State, Country, Continent

Informational, maps, graphs and charts

THINK more!

Discuss which places appear in the news on a regular basis. What makes those places "hotspots"?

11

SPORTS facts in five

Draw facts from the sports section of today's newspaper. List the sports on the left and choose facts about the different sports to complete the chart.

SPORT	Losing Team	Winning Player	Won over 50%	Lost by small margin	Top ranked
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					

THINK more!

Come up with other categories, create another chart and have a classmate complete your chart based on sports statistics.

Informational, maps, graphs and charts

Select five players and find the following information about them from reading your newspaper:
MP (minutes played),
FG (field goals),
FT (free throws),
R (rebounds),
A (assists),
TP (total points).

BASKETBALL statistics

Player's name	MP	FG	FT	R	A	TP

Informational, maps, graphs and charts

THINK more!

Answer the following questions and draw other conclusions based on the date:
1. What percentage of the game did each person play?
2. How many points did the players score per minute of playing time?
3. Whose statistics impress you most? Why?

15a

FOOTBALL scores

Locate football scores in the newspaper. Find out the points scored for several games and how the points were scores (touchdown, extra point, two-point conversion, field goal, and/or safety). Fill in the chart below with the names of the teams, their points and final scores.

TEAM NAME		1	2 (two-point conversion)	2 (safety)	3	6	Total points
team 1							
team 2							
team 1							
team 2							
team 1							
team 2							
team 1							
team 2							
team 1							
team 2							
team 1							
team 2							

THINK more!

Express one of the scores as a linear equation: X=touchdowns, Y=extra point, Z=field goal, A=safety, B=two point conversation.

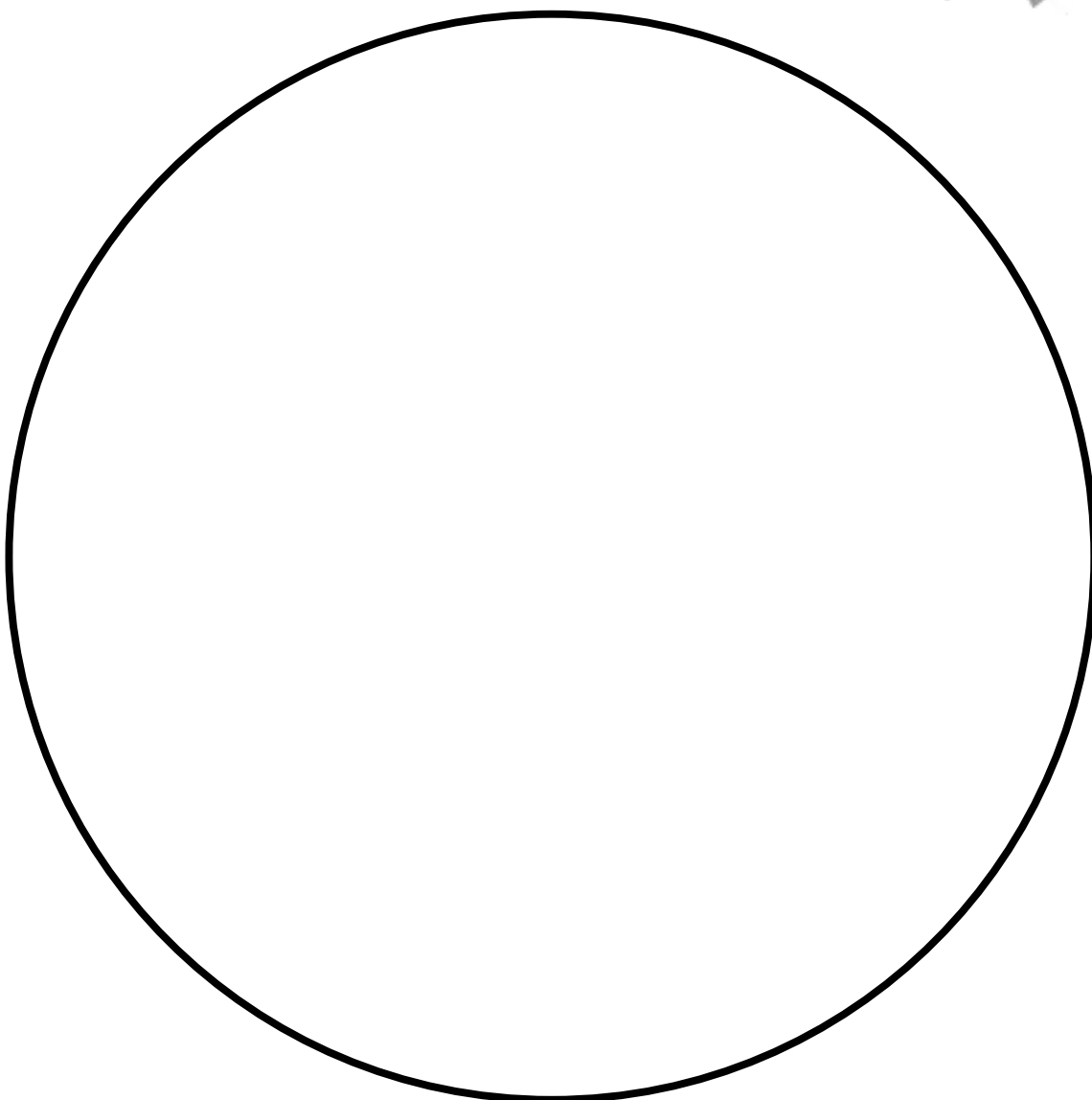## Informational, maps, graphs and charts

15b

CHART MOVIES

Classify movies advertised in the newspaper. Choose categories such as comedy, tragedy, mystery, action or adventure, science fiction and romance. Use the pie chart to show how many movies fall into the categories. Write a headline for your chart.

Informational, maps, graphs and charts

THINK more!

What other type of graph or chart can you use to show the categories of movies?

21

Select ten companies listed in the stock pages of the newspaper. Choose companies that interest you. Record the price at the close of the day and change that occurred over the day. Plus (+) indicates price went up, dash (-) indicates price went down and dots (...) indicate no change.

Subtract change from closing price to figure out opening price for stocks. If the newspaper lists high and low prices over the past year, determine where yesterday's price falls in the range.

Informational, maps, graphs, and charts

Stock ex: Lowe's	CloseNet Change	Opening price	365 High Low
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

THINKmore!

Track the performance of the stocks over several days or weeks. Then pretend you have money to invest in the stock market. Choose five of the companies and purchase 100 stocks. Graph the performance of your stocks.

22