

SHEroes

The celebration of Women's History Month gives recognition and reward to the women who have helped shaped life in the United States and the world. From government to science to teaching and the arts, women have made enormous contributions to the knowledge and progress that we enjoy in our communities and institutions.

The student supplement "SHEroes—World Leaders in Women's History" explores the lives and contributions of some of the world's great women.

This Teacher Guide is designed to extend the lessons of that supplement, and to help you introduce the newspaper to students with additional deliveries of papers. It contains suggested activities, as well as several 8 1/2 x 11-inch activity sheets that you may photocopy for students to complete.

Newspapers in Education would like to hear your comments about this program, as well as any of the other programs we offer throughout the year. Please return the enclosed evaluation sheet to our Newspaper In Education Department.



WEEK 1

- Equality in Jobs
- Equality in Education
- Exploring the World
- Ms. President
- Words, Words, Words

WEEK 2

- What You Believe
- Women in Politics
- Local SHEroes
- Adopt a Journalist
- Health Issues

WEEK 3

- You Can Quote Me
- International SHEroes
- Opinionated SHEro
- Super SHEro
- Stream-of-Consciousness

WEEK 4

- Stereotypes
- Future Movie Critics
- The Plot Thickens
- Gender Bender
- The Great Discoverers

EQUALITY

The story of women's history is the story of the quest for equality. For a long time, men and women did not receive equal education, and only in recent years did women begin to earn salaries equal to men's in the workplace. Many women are still working to gain equality in the classroom and workplace. The activities below encourage students to consider what equality means to them personally, and where to look for it—or its absence—in the world around them.

1. Equality in Jobs*

In today's work world, the law requires that there be equal opportunity in applying for jobs. But not all jobs are filled equally by men and women. Ask students to scan the Help Wanted ads in today's newspaper. With the "Equality in Jobs" activity sheet, have them list five jobs for which men and women would be chosen about equally for positions. Then have them list five jobs for which either men or women would more likely be chosen.

STANDARDS/SKILLS: *Posing social science questions about a culture or problem; gathering and analyzing information to answer the question posed, with evidence.*

2. Equality in Education

Ask each student to pretend he/she is a parent of a daughter in the year 2000. Have them look through the stories, photos and ads in the newspaper for news about fields of education that will be important in the work world over the next 20 years. Challenge them to write a letter to a daughter recommending which of these fields of education she should pursue, and why. Finish by asking the class which of these fields might have been blocked to girls 25 or 50 years ago.

STANDARDS/SKILLS: *Evaluating employment and career opportunities in light of economic trends; using research to organize and create texts to persuade others to take a particular position.*

3. Exploring the World

Encourage your students to search the newspaper today or for several days for features or profiles about women explorers. Discuss what kinds of exploring make news today. Then ask students to pick three places they would explore if they could. Challenge them to come up with a list of

provisions they think they would need to survive, and what they would need to record their discoveries.

STANDARDS/SKILLS: *Using historical biographies to explain how events from the past affect the lives of individuals and how some individuals influence the course of history; describing diverse places and cultures of world regions.*

4. Ms. President

So far, no woman has ever been elected president of the United States. Other nations, however, have had women as heads of state. Ask students to scan today's newspaper for news of women who are leaders at different levels of government, or business. From these women newsmakers, have students choose a candidate they think would be a good president and plan a campaign to get her elected.

STANDARDS/SKILLS: *Evaluating information from various sources in order to evaluate candidates for public office; selecting formats for messages to influence receivers' responses.*

5. Words, Words, Words

Toni Morrison was the first black woman to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature. Morrison's novels seek to reveal the injustice of black American life, while also celebrating self-worth and spiritual happiness. Have your students search feature stories, book reviews and the news for examples of women writers who use words to address issues of cultural importance in books, songs, poems or commentary. Ask them to discuss how writing can change the way people think. Last, have your students write a brief review of a favorite book. How many of the books chosen were written by women?

STANDARDS/SKILLS: *Selecting, reading and responding thoughtfully to both classic and contemporary texts; describing and discussing shared issues in the human experience that appear in literature.*

*Includes activity sheet for students.

EQUALITY IN JOBS

In today's work world, the law requires that there be equal opportunity in applying for jobs. But not all jobs are filled equally by men and women. Scan the Help Wanted ads in today's newspaper. In the spaces below list five jobs for which men and women would be chosen about equally for positions. Then list five jobs for which either men or women would more likely be chosen. As a class, discuss why such jobs would more likely go to men or to women.

Chosen Equally

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Men Chosen

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Women Chosen

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

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- Lost Worlds
- Make the Reading Connection
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- Protect & Serve America

- Read with the Pros
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- Newspaper PLUS
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- Format html 50" 54"
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