

# The Mini Page

Educational Standards and Suggested Activities for Teachers

Issue 38

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Standards Spotlight: Punctuation Matters

Mini Page activities meet many state and national educational standards. Each week we identify standards that relate to The Mini Page's content and offer activities that will help your students reach them.

**This week's standard:**

- Students choose punctuation for effect. (Common Core State Standards: Writing)

**Activities:**

1. Write down three headlines from the newspaper. Leave space between the headlines. Now, rewrite each headline as a question. Don't forget to use question marks.
2. Colons can introduce more information to a sentence. First, locate the names of three political leaders. Then add the names to this sentence: **Many politicians attended the festival: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.**
3. Sports stories are often written with short sentences. Read three sports stories. In each story, find two sentences that seem to go together. Write a new sentence joining the two sentences with a semicolon.
4. Select four comic strips. Pick one dialogue box in each strip and substitute an exclamation point for the period. Read the new dialogue aloud with the added emphasis.
5. Copy a paragraph from the newspaper, but leave out all the punctuation. Make several copies of the paragraph. Give the copies to several friends and have them add punctuation. Then compare all the papers.

Standards by Dr. Sherrye D. Garrett, Use the News Foundation.

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