

Future Headlines

Facilitation Guide



Tool for
Performance Character

 60 minutes

 Educator-prep
Lifelong Learners

Materials

- 2 or more people
- Paper, sticky notes, and markers
- For Virtual: Try a digital workspace like Google Docs or Mural

About this Guide

An activity to explore possibilities by imagining a future where our current challenges to our vision and goals have been overcome and exploring how these things might have happened.

Try this creative activity to spark thinking around different possibilities and outcomes. This activity is an engaging way to plan for the future and visualize hypothetical endpoints by crafting newspaper headlines and stories. Future headlines can help to clarify important aspects of your vision and goals when you are feeling stuck and uncertain by jump-starting ideas around possible next steps to achieve your desired outcome.

Making Connections

Principled Innovation asks us to work with others and recognize the limits of our own knowledge so that we can better understand and tackle the complex issues our communities face.

Connecting Character Assets:

[Creativity](#)
[Collaboration](#)

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Instructions

1 Think of a question

Start by coming up with a question for the near future to guide your thinking, such as “How might we create a safe environment for all learners to share ideas, thoughts, and perspectives?” or “How might we successfully collaborate as a team?”

2 Craft your answer

Then, craft your ideal answer to that question in the form of a newspaper headline. Be creative and have fun with this by thinking of headlines that are short, bold, and have some alliteration. Try adding photos or illustrations to expand on your headline.

3 Create your front page

To go deeper, draw or digitally create your “front page” with your newspaper headline with a brief paragraph about the work.

4 Put it on display

If you completed this individually, consider hanging your headline somewhere you’ll see each day to encourage your thinking and next steps.

If you completed this as a team or group, try hanging everyone’s headlines up around the room or share them virtually and complete a “gallery walk” around the space to share and get feedback. The group could identify themes and insights to craft another headline that represents the team.

5 Consider different contexts

Another variation of this activity to create more possibilities and harness more insights is to create your headline in three different contexts/environments: “worst-case”, “business as usual”, and “best-case”. This would provide you with three various outcomes for the future to potentially avoid pitfalls and setbacks or spark new and creative ideas to test.