

# A Day in the Life...

## Biography Ideas for NiE

All of these ideas will require either a feature story on an individual or a page of obituaries.

### Bulletin Board

- Create a bulletin board related to important people in your community. Draw a star for each person. In the center of each star, write the person's name. On each point of the star, write an accomplishment, the date of birth, date of death, etc.

### Language Arts

- Summarize the text information into one paragraph. Remember to include all important events.
- List accomplishments in priority order with the most important first. Defend the order of your list of accomplishments.
- Write a new caption for the picture provided.
- Pretend there is not enough space provided for this article. What 10 words would you eliminate without eliminating any of the story's facts?
- Write down unfamiliar words. Use a dictionary to find the definitions. Create a word game using the words and definitions. Share your word game with a classmate.
- Write a short biography of the person, using first person terminology. Example: I was born in 1953...
- Use first-person biographies to create "Who Am I?" riddles.
- Create a biography of a local person mentioned in today's paper.

### Math

- Create word problems using the dates provided.
- Given the birth and death (if the person is deceased) dates, how old was the person when s/he died?
- How old is/would this person be today?
- How old was this person when s/he achieved her/his first major accomplishment?
- Create word problems from an obituary in today's newspaper.

### Research

- Locate the biographical dictionary in your school library.
- In the reference section of the library, browse through a biography series, such as Biography Today.
- Research who else was famous during the same time in the United States or the world.
- At the library, sign out a biography of one of the people mentioned, if available.

### Social Studies

- Using the obituary page, create a timeline using the birth and death dates provided for all listed individuals.
- Create a chart and categorize each person as Inventor, Politician, Scientist, Artist, etc.
- Chart each person's accomplishments on a timeline.
- Think of someone from your community whom you would like interview. Make a list of eight-10 questions you would ask.
- Compare the lifestyle of the person being profiled to your own lifestyle. Consider the physical environment, economic situation, family life, etc.

Find other ideas at [www.nwanews.com/nie](http://www.nwanews.com/nie)  
*This lesson courtesy of Newsday in Education,  
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Arkansas Democrat-Gazette,  
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