

# WEEKLY READER®

Lesson Plan  
Editions 1 and 2



www.weeklyreader.com

## Fact or Opinion?

### Goals:

Students will learn the difference between a fact and an opinion.

### Objectives:

Students will be able to

- correctly identify statements that are facts and opinions.
- explain the difference between a fact and an opinion.
- distinguish fact from opinion by completing a graphic organizer.

**Intended Audience:** First and second grade (including English Language Learners, struggling learners, and advanced learners)

### National Standards

Language Arts (NCTE/IRA)

Evaluation strategies

**Materials Needed:** *Weekly Reader* issue about Native Americans; the reproducible activity (page 2 of this lesson plan), an easel pad or whiteboard, markers and highlighters (for extension activities)

**Prerequisite Knowledge:** Children should be familiar with the material covered in the *Weekly Reader* issue about Native Americans.



Patrick Girouard

## Procedures

**Introduction:** Explain to students that it is important to be able to tell the difference between a fact and an opinion. Invite students to share ideas about why that is important. Review that being able to tell the difference between fact and opinion helps them better understand what they are reading because they will know what information is true. Ask: What is a fact? What is an opinion? Explain to students: A fact is a statement that can be proven to be true or false. An opinion is an idea or belief that someone has about something.

**Presentation:** Write several examples of facts and opinions on an easel pad or whiteboard. For example: We read *Weekly Reader* in school. (*fact*) *Weekly Reader* is great. (*opinion*) Some apples are red. (*fact*) Apples taste delicious. (*opinion*) Ask students to come up with their own examples. Give them other topics, such as sports, music, movies, or books.

**Activity:** Guide students in completing the activity on page 2 of this lesson plan. Review, or model, the activity to make sure they understand what to do. Have students work individually or with partners.

**Closure:** When students have finished, review the answers with the class. Ask: How can you tell the difference between a fact and an opinion?

## Adaptations and Extensions

### Extend this activity for ELLs (English Language Learners) and struggling learners:

Have students do the same activity using a concrete object, such as a toy or an apple. Give them some examples of facts and opinions about that object. Provide each student with two colored markers. Have each student write two statements that are facts in one color and two statements that are opinions in another color.

**Extend this activity for gifted and talented students:** Give each student (or pairs of students) an article from a newspaper's editorial section to read. Have them highlight facts in one color and opinions in another color. Ask them to create charts to show the facts in one column and the opinions in another.

**Assignment:** Have students write three facts and three opinions about themselves. They can share their work and see whether other students can correctly identify the facts and opinions.

**Assessment:** Review the activity with each child to determine the following:

- Was he or she able to work independently?
- Was he or she able to complete the graphic organizer correctly?

### Additional Resource

Go to [www.pbskids.org/arthur/games/factsopinions](http://www.pbskids.org/arthur/games/factsopinions) for a kid-friendly interactive game about facts and opinions.

Grades 1/2

# Weekly Reader Lesson Plan Reproducible

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Fact or Opinion?

A **fact** is a statement that can be proven to be true or false.  
An **opinion** is an idea or belief that someone has about something.  
Read the sentences below. Some are facts and some are opinions.  
Write each sentence in the correct column below.



**A powwow is a festival.**

**Some people dance at powwows.**

**Powwows are fun.**

**Fry bread is often found at powwows.**

**Fry bread tastes good.**

**Drums make the best music.**

## Native American Powwows

Facts

Opinions

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