

Critical Reading: Evaluate 1

STRATEGY: CRITICAL READING: EVALUATE

TEACH/PRACTICE

REVIEW/RETEACH

Student Objectives

- Evaluate a newspaper article.
- Judge the value of information from different sources.

Materials

- Passage: TV Turnoff Week
- Graphic Organizer: Critical Reading: Evaluate 1

Build Background

Ask students if they would consider not watching TV for a week. Then share the following information:

- Before TV and video games existed, kids spent more time playing outside.
- Today, people spend more time watching TV than they do talking to family members.

Teach

Explain to students that when they evaluate, they make a judgment about something. They might evaluate an idea to determine its worth, a solution to determine its effectiveness, or information to determine its value. Point out that in “TV Turnoff Week,” the idea of not watching TV for a week is discussed. Explain that after reading, students will evaluate this idea to determine its worth.

Guided Practice

Distribute “**TV Turnoff Week**” and read the story with students. Explain that their goal is to answer the question, “Is TV Turnoff Week a worthwhile idea?” After reading each paragraph, ask the following questions:

Paragraph 1 *What does the mayor of Chester City want all families to do?* (She wants them to turn off their TVs for the week.)

Paragraph 2 *According to the mayor, how does TV watching hurt families?* (It cuts into their time together and prevents meaningful time talking and doing things together.)

Paragraph 3 *What did the mayor post on the city website?* (She posted a list of suggested activities families might enjoy doing.)

Paragraphs 4–6 *Who supported the program?* (most parents) *Why did Salita oppose it?* (She said you can learn things from TV programs, such as nature shows.) *Do you agree with Salita or the parents? Why?* (Responses will vary, but students should support their answers.)

Paragraphs 7–9 *What did Maria complain about?* (She said kids should’ve been able to vote on the issue.) *What did Amir and his family do during the last TV Turnoff Week?* (They did a 1,000-piece puzzle.)

Apply

Distribute the **Graphic Organizer**. Challenge students to fill in three pieces of evidence from the article, judge their importance, and then make a supported evaluation. Have students work together to complete it.