



PLTW Virtual Learning

6th Grade Intro to Tech

April 27, 2020



6th Grade Intro to Technology Lesson: April 27 (Part 1 of 4)

Objective/Learning Target:

Students will write and format a family newsletter to digitally share family news and stories with relatives and friends.

Warm-Ups:

Without actually looking at a newspaper or news site, brainstorm a list of the types of content that you've seen in the news before. It isn't all current events - what other types of information makes it into the news?


Brainstorm a second list of the news that has been going on in your home, big or small. We all have to work with what we've got, so did someone lose a tooth? Did you teach a pet a cool new trick? Write down whatever you can think of.

Lesson Introduction/Background Information:

We are all separated from some of the people in our lives right now. Some of us have a house full of family that we are living with, and some of us have very few people at home. All over the world, families and friends have been staying connected with each other in new ways. This week, we are going to help keep your family and friends updated on what's going on in your home by creating a family newsletter in Google Docs.

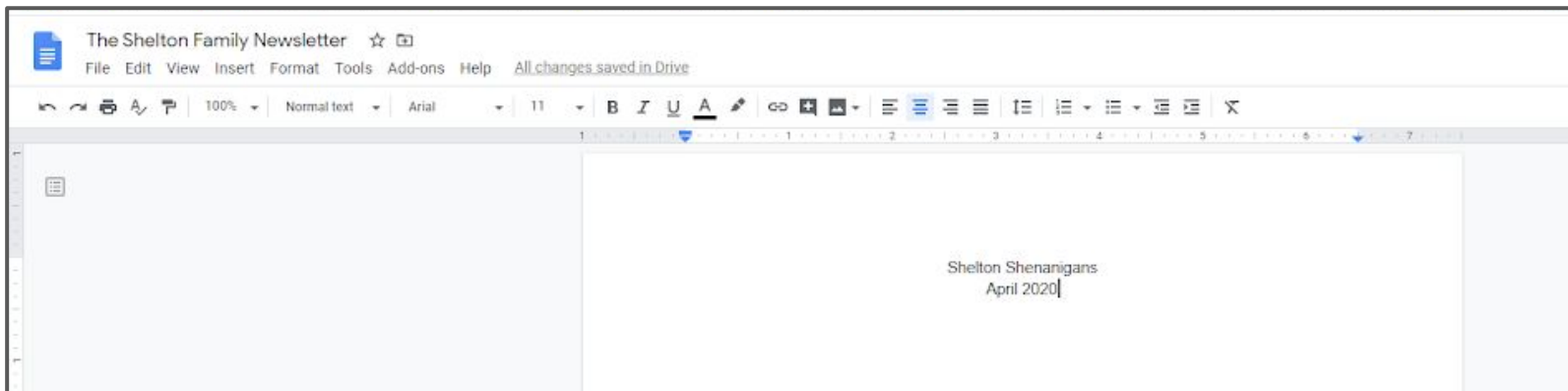
Practice:

To get started, we need to make a new Google Doc. Do this by:

1. Going to drive.google.com.
2. In the top left corner, click the  button.
3. Click the menu option that says Google Docs and it should open a new Doc for you.
4. Give your Doc a descriptive name by clicking where it says Untitled Document, like, “The _____ Family Newsletter” (where you would insert your family’s last name or names in the blank).

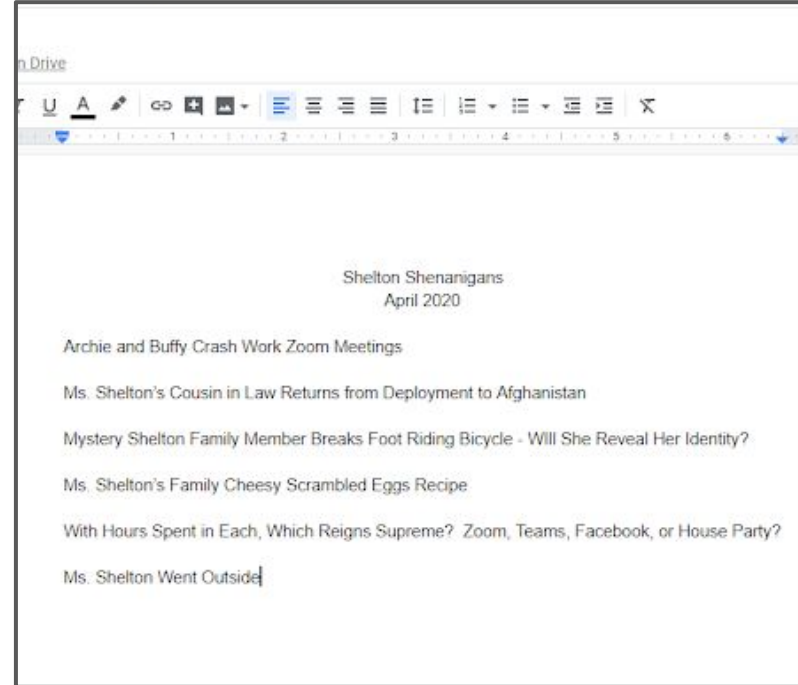
Practice:

For the content of your doc, let's first give it a title and a date. The title can be straightforward or it can be silly - whatever fits your family. See if you can click around the menu options and figure out how to center just the title and the date, like I have in my example below.



Practice:

Now we are going to start listing topics or headlines for your newsletter below your heading. Newsletters can include events that have happened to your family recently, but they can also include family history, jokes, funny stories, and recipes that you like to make. Aim for what will be about a page long newsletter, and put space between each heading to leave room for your actual story.



Self-Assessment:

Share your headlines with your family members. Are there things they think you should add to write about? Are you forgetting anything that could be informative or entertaining?

Extend Your Learning/Continued Practice:

Read a few of these articles giving tips on writing family newsletters:

[How to Write a Family Newsletter Your Friends Will Actually Read](#)

[Start Spreading the News: Write a Family Newsletter](#)