



PLTW Virtual Learning

6th Grade Intro to Tech

April 30, 2020



6th Grade Intro to Technology Lesson: April 30 (Part 4 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:

First, now find a newspaper or news website to look at.

Rather than worrying about the content, instead look at some of the text features. What do you notice that makes the articles more interesting to read in terms of formatting? Bigger fonts for titles? Bolding, italics, underlining? Graphics?

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:

Today we are going to format our newsletter to make it look more like a newsletter/more visually interesting. Take the following steps:

1. Highlight your title and change it to a larger font size and a different type of interesting font (that you can still read).
2. Also highlight your date (your subheading) and make that font larger and look different, maybe by italicizing it.

Shelton Shenanigans

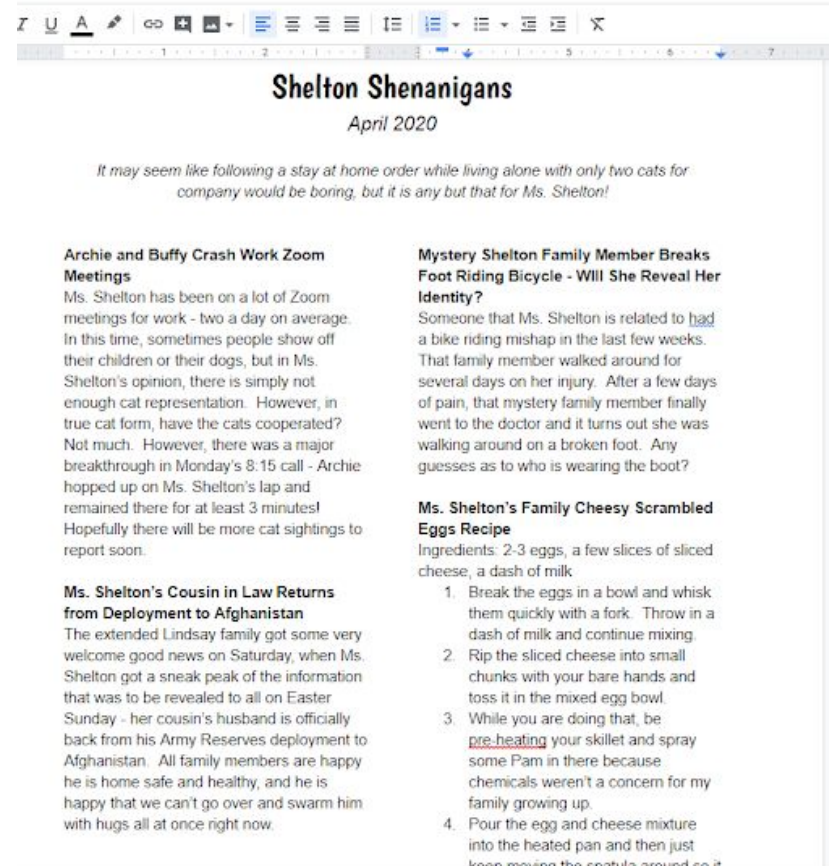
April 2020

It may seem like following a stay at home order while living alone with only two cats for company would be boring, but it is any but that for Ms. Shelton!

Practice:

3. Bold the headlines of each story.
4. Select the text of your headlines and stories and turn them into a two-column format. Watch the video below to see how to do that.

[Watch video](#)



The screenshot shows a web editor interface with a toolbar at the top. The main content area displays a blog post titled "Shelton Shenanigans" dated "April 2020". Below the title is a sub-header: "It may seem like following a stay at home order while living alone with only two cats for company would be boring, but it is any but that for Ms. Shelton!". The post is divided into two columns. The left column contains two articles: "Archie and Buffy Crash Work Zoom Meetings" and "Ms. Shelton's Cousin in Law Returns from Deployment to Afghanistan". The right column contains two articles: "Mystery Shelton Family Member Breaks Foot Riding Bicycle - Will She Reveal Her Identity?" and "Ms. Shelton's Family Cheesy Scrambled Eggs Recipe". The recipe article includes a list of ingredients and a four-step numbered list of instructions.

Shelton Shenanigans

April 2020

It may seem like following a stay at home order while living alone with only two cats for company would be boring, but it is any but that for Ms. Shelton!

Archie and Buffy Crash Work Zoom Meetings

Ms. Shelton has been on a lot of Zoom meetings for work - two a day on average. In this time, sometimes people show off their children or their dogs, but in Ms. Shelton's opinion, there is simply not enough cat representation. However, in true cat form, have the cats cooperated? Not much. However, there was a major breakthrough in Monday's 8:15 call - Archie hopped up on Ms. Shelton's lap and remained there for at least 3 minutes! Hopefully there will be more cat sightings to report soon.

Ms. Shelton's Cousin in Law Returns from Deployment to Afghanistan

The extended Lindsay family got some very welcome good news on Saturday, when Ms. Shelton got a sneak peak of the information that was to be revealed to all on Easter Sunday - her cousin's husband is officially back from his Army Reserves deployment to Afghanistan. All family members are happy he is home safe and healthy, and he is happy that we can't go over and swarm him with hugs all at once right now.

Mystery Shelton Family Member Breaks Foot Riding Bicycle - Will She Reveal Her Identity?

Someone that Ms. Shelton is related to [had](#) a bike riding mishap in the last few weeks. That family member walked around for several days on her injury. After a few days of pain, that mystery family member finally went to the doctor and it turns out she was walking around on a broken foot. Any guesses as to who is wearing the boot?

Ms. Shelton's Family Cheesy Scrambled Eggs Recipe

Ingredients: 2-3 eggs, a few slices of sliced cheese, a dash of milk

1. Break the eggs in a bowl and whisk them quickly with a fork. Throw in a dash of milk and continue mixing.
2. Rip the sliced cheese into small chunks with your bare hands and toss it in the mixed egg bowl.
3. While you are doing that, be [pre-heating](#) your skillet and spray some Pam in there because chemicals weren't a concern for my family growing up.
4. Pour the egg and cheese mixture into the heated pan and then just keep moving the spatula around so it

Self-Assessment:

Send your newsletter to family and friends! You can...

- Press the blue Share button and put in their email addresses
- Click File - Download - PDF Document and email it to people as an attachment
- Print it out and mail it to friends or family members

Make sure to show off your final product to the people you live with as well!

Extend Your Learning/Continued Practice:

Some reflection questions to consider about this activity:

What else might you use a document like this for?

How will you apply the new skills you learned here to your life or work?