

Be a Guest of the Past

Lesson Title: Writing the Past – Creating an edition of the *Iowa City Republican*

Objectives: TLW gain understating of historical context of the founding of the Coralville Schoolhouse by researching national and local events.

Materials: *Iowa City Republican* template (follows)

Introduction: Students become journalists and write short news items about the events of 1876. Although the *Iowa City Republican* was a daily newspaper, students will be writing an issue that will cover the entire year so that they can place the founding of the school within its historical context. At this time, Coralville did not have its own paper, so residents would have read the *Republican* or one of the other Iowa City papers.

Student Activity: The classroom teacher will break students into small groups. Each group will be assigned an 1876 event. The following are suggested news items broken into national or local (pertaining to Coralville, Iowa City, or the state of Iowa).

Once the students have written their articles, paste the articles on the template provided. Photocopy the finished newspaper and give each student a copy to fold inside their Student Notebook. Bring one copy of the newspaper to the Schoolhouse on the day of the field trip. The teacher will review current events with the students based on their newspaper.

Assessment/ Culmination: Final copy of the newspaper for the Student Notebook. Knowledge of events tested on day of field trip.