



News splash



- Read the newspaper **report**.

A news report is a recount. It is mainly written in the past tense.



A dear do as daughter swims off with pounds

When Alison Blair was asked by her eleven-year-old daughter, Holly, to sponsor a fund-raising swim she thought nothing of offering her £1 for every length. After all, she thought, it wouldn't come to more than a few pounds.

But she had not counted on her daughter's steely determination. She watched with a sinking feeling as Holly completed length after length, reaching an amazing total of 123 lengths of the 25-metre swimming pool!

Alison, of Gosforth, Newcastle, said last night: 'I couldn't believe my eyes. I thought of changing the sponsor form, but that wouldn't

have been fair. It is for such a good cause – and Holly deserves it.'

Holly was one of seven young swimmers at the Newcastle City baths who swam a total of 536 lengths in aid of St Oswald's Hospice.

Friends and neighbours also sponsored Holly, but the Blairs have yet to work out how much she is owed.

The Blairs are preparing themselves for the reactions.



- Describe how the introductory paragraph sets the scene.
- Make a chart to show how the recount lists the events in the story.

What is the story about?
What does it make you think might happen?
How?



Paragraph	Information	Connectives
1		



- What does the final paragraph make you think will happen next?

Teachers' note You could first write the headline on the board and ask the children to predict what the report will be about. They could check their predictions later. Read the report together and ask the children to notice in which tense the text is written. The chart-making activity emphasises that the recount does not give the events in the order in which they happened.

Developing Literacy
Non-fiction Compendium:
Ages 7–11
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