

# APPLY TO BECOME A SCHOLASTIC KID REPORTER

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Scholastic Kids Press is extending the Kid Reporter application deadline. This will provide students and their families additional time to complete and mail in applications in a safe and accessible way. To be considered for the program, students must be between the ages of 10–14 (born on or between September 1, 2006, and August 31, 2010). To download the application, visit [www.scholastic.com/kidspress](http://www.scholastic.com/kidspress).


**All applications must now be received by Friday, July 10, 2020.**

## TIPS FOR WRITING A NEWS STORY

*In addition to filling out the 2020–21 Kid Reporter application form, students must submit an original news article, two story ideas, and a personal essay. The news article should be 400 words and include at least four quotes from at least two interviews. Below are helpful tips to complete the news article portion of the application, while following social-distancing guidelines.*

- 1.** Check your local news to find topics, people, or organizations you want to learn more about. Then find friends, classmates, family members, neighbors, or community members to interview for your news article.
- 2.** Prepare your interview questions in advance and make sure that you're ready to record the answers, whether you're using a notebook, recording device, or computer.
- 3.** Schedule your interviews with the supervision of a parent and/or guardian. Different ways to conduct interviews that respect social distancing include:
  - a.** **Phone Interviews:** Set up a designated date and time to talk with people on the phone.
  - b.** **Video Interviews:** Arrange for the interview to take place virtually. This can happen through video calls using platforms such as Hangouts, FaceTime, Zoom, Skype, etc.

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 **Email Interviews:** Draft interview questions and send them via email, asking your interviewee to type out responses and email them back to you.

**4.** Remember to get the facts: This includes the name of the person you're interviewing and the spelling of their name, what their title is, where they live, and age (if appropriate).

**5.** In addition to your interviews, you may quote experts from other news outlets. Be sure to properly cite your source. For example: "I've been a public servant all my life. And this is right now, you know, kind of almost the epitome of being a public servant," Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said in an interview with *The New York Times*.

**6.** Scholastic editors review all Kid Reporter applications based on writing ability, interviewing skills, and attention to detail. Remember, once you type up your news article, make sure to double-check your work.

**7.** When the application is complete and you're able to go outside safely, find your nearest postal/delivery service and mail all of these materials to:

Scholastic Kids Press  
557 Broadway  
New York, NY USA 10012-3999

*Please note that Scholastic Kids Press is unable to accept digital applications.*

Do you have questions about the application process? Email [kidspress@scholastic.com](mailto:kidspress@scholastic.com)