



On Target

WITH NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION:
AN INTRODUCTION TO ARCHERY

In partnership with the Missouri Department of Conservation, Newspapers in Education is exploring archery. Archery is a sport that does not discriminate based on athletic skill, gender, size or academic ability. It's open to everyone!

Through archery, students learn focus, discipline, patience and the life lessons required to be successful in the classroom and in life.

Archery Safety Procedures

- Always listen to the archery range instructor.
- Always inspect equipment for cracks or damaged areas on the bow limbs, strings, and arrows; remove any damaged materials from the shooting area.
- Observe courtesy and sportsmanship ideals.
- Only approach the shooting line after hearing two whistle blasts.
- Keep your arrows in your quiver until a whistle is blown one time to load your bows and begin shooting.
- Your arrows should always be pointed downrange while loading the bow.
- Shoot only at the target directly in front of you.
- Always look downrange and beyond your target to be sure that there are no obstructions and the range is clear beyond the targets.
- Shoot with one foot on each side of the shooting line.
- Stop shooting immediately and set your bow down if there are five or more whistle blasts.
- Only approach the target after hearing three whistles and hearing the command to walk to the targets.
- Always carry arrows with one hand on the points and the other hand placed around the shafts just below the fletching.
- Always store the archery equipment in a secure and locked area with only adult access.
- Store all gear including bows, targets and arrows in a dry area with moderate temperatures.

Whistle Commands are used to communicate to archers on the range. Review the commands below and discuss why these commands are important.

- **Two Blasts** – “Archers may walk to the shooting line.”
- **One Blast** – “Archers may load their bows and begin shooting.”
- **Three Blasts** – “Archers may walk to the target line to retrieve arrows.”
- **Five or More Blasts** – “STOP SHOOTING and put your arrow back in your quiver.”

WRITING CONNECTION: Archery is a safe and enjoyable physical activity when safety procedures are followed. Identify three safety procedures you must follow when participating in archery and explain why each of these procedures are important.



To learn more about the National Archery in Schools Program, please visit STLtoday.com/NIE.