1. Find events in the newspaper that might affect the prices of something you or your family often buys. If the price goes up, will stock in the product be likely to go up or down?

2. The US government is the world’s leading consumer. Find an article that discusses how the government is spending money. What stocks might rise because of government spending? [During Desert Storm, the value of stock for Raytheon Company, producer of the Patriot Missile, jumped, thanks to a government contract and positive publicity about the missile.]

3. Look for an article that indicates a company is prospering or struggling. How might the change affect the company’s stock?

4. What does the newspaper say about interest rates? Higher interest rates make it more difficult for companies to borrow money for expansion. Less growth may frighten away potential investors. That may cause stocks to go down.

5. Look for a newspaper article about news that may affect many people. What will people need because of the news? What might they use less? Are there products that might go up in value because of the news? Are there stocks that might go down?

6. Find indications from the newspaper that we're in a Bear or a Bull Market. (Remember that when the market is going up, it's called a Bull Market. It's a Bear Market when the market is going down.)