

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 2-5

1 Be Smart, Go to Sleep

The number of hours kids sleep at night may affect how they do in school. At the annual meeting of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine in June, many studies were presented that showed that the school performance of children is dropping because they are sleepy. Experts say that technology devices and services such as cell phones, iPods and Facebook are leading kids to stay up later at night. Look through the eEdition for three items of technology that you like, such as iPods, video games or TV. Make a chart showing how many minutes or hours you use them each day for a week. Write a paragraph describing how technology can cut into people's time for doing other things.

Learning Standards: Responding to a variety of visual, written and electronic texts by making connections to students' personal lives and the lives of others; organizing and presenting information in maps, graphs, charts and timelines.

2 A Cut Above

It's fun and easy to "cut out" articles and photos from the eEdition. After finding something you'd like to cut out, click on the Clip & Save or similar button. Click and drag the box so it outlines the area you want. You can now print or save the item. Find a photo or comic strip in the eEdition that you like and click on it. Now, click on the Clip & Save button. Make sure the dotted lines go completely around the entire photo or comic strip. If they don't, drag the lines to the right places. Finally, click print. Write about how this photo or comic strip makes you feel and try to convince others to like it, too. Then write how features like the Clip & Save button benefit readers of eEditions.

Learning Standards: Using prescribed technology tools for data collection and analysis; describing uses of technology in daily life.

3 Just Like the Movies

Fans of the "Star Wars" movies recently went to the Star Wars Celebration V convention in Florida and had a special request for America's NASA space agency. The fans asked NASA representatives to come up with a "hyper-drive" that could transport astronauts through space at light speed. NASA has been studying different and faster ways to get around the Earth's solar system for many years. Find a photo or article in the eEdition that shows or tells about someone trying something new. Write about a time when you tried something new and how it made you feel.

Learning Standards: Writing fluently for multiple purposes to produce compositions, such as personal narratives, persuasive essays, lab reports and poetry; acquiring information from multiple sources.

4 By the Gallon

Experts believe that gasoline prices will drop after Labor Day, and one expert says it could be by as much as 15 cents a gallon. According to the AAA auto group, Write Express and the Oil Price Information Service, the average retail price of a gallon of unleaded regular gas in late August was \$2.724. A drop in price would be good news as school buses begin heading out for a new school year. Use the ads in the eEdition to find an item you think costs a lot and an item you think costs little. Come up with five reasons why you think the higher priced item costs more.

Learning Standard: Using economic reasoning when comparing price, quality and features of goods and services.

5 Dangerous Winds

It was five years ago when Hurricane Katrina made landfall near New Orleans, Louisiana. On August 29, 2005, the strong Category 4 storm had winds of 145 miles per hour along the Gulf Coast of the United States. Many people lost their homes and businesses, and more than 1,300 people

died. It was later declared the worst natural disaster in U.S. history. Look through the eEdition to find a photo of story about a place you love to go, such the beach, a park, school, the zoo or a museum. Write about what you think would happen if a hurricane or other disaster damaged or completely ruined the place you love. How would you feel?

Learning Standards: Exploring and reflecting on universal themes and substantive issues from oral, visual, and written texts; writing fluently for multiple purposes.

A Teaching Tool
for Tomorrow

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 6-8

1 Looking Back, Moving Forward

With the eEdition, it's simple to jump around to different pages, sections and even days. First, use the drop-down menu to select a day in the last week. Next, choose the section of the eEdition you want to read. Then, choose the page. Read a story in the eEdition about an issue or situation that has been making news for at least a few days, such as the war in Afghanistan or primary elections in your state or other states. Now, using the drop-down menu, choose an earlier day within the past week. Using the section and page drop-down menus, find an article about the same issue. Compare the two articles and write about what has remained the same, what is different and what, if anything, has been learned by readers or the people in the stories.

Learning Standards: Responding personally, analytically and critically to a variety of oral, visual, written and electronic texts; providing examples of how texts influence their lives and their role in society; writing fluently or multiple purposes.

2 Weakening Mission

A new study shows that living six months on board the International Space Station can make astronauts become as weak as 80-year-olds. A Marquette University biologist led the study that is now raising health concerns for astronauts. America's NASA space agency has been considering longer space trips to asteroids and even the planet Mars. Although the study says the health effects are temporary and the muscles recover when astronauts return to Earth, there are concerns whether an astronaut who spends a long time on a mission could be too weak for an emergency landing or for a spacewalk to make repairs. Find an article in the eEdition that draws a conclusion based on research. Write a paragraph discussing the value of this research.

Learning Standards: Employing multiple strategies to construct meaning, such as generating questions, recognizing how authors use information, generalizing ideas, matching form to content and developing reference skills; writing fluently for multiple purposes.

3 No-Smoking, Please

Movies showing characters smoking are a lot less popular nowadays, according to new research from the University of California in San Francisco. Researchers looked at the most popular movies from 1991 to 2009 and found that tobacco use in films peaked in 2005, but then began dropping. In 2009, more than half of the top 145 movies released didn't show anyone smoking, and 61 percent of movies for kids didn't show tobacco use. Using today's eEdition or its archives, find an article about the dangers of smoking. Then write a letter to your peers stating why they shouldn't smoke.

Learning Standards: Demonstrating the ability to use different voices in written communication to persuade, inform, entertain and inspire audiences; engaging peers in constructive conversation about matters of interest or importance; utilizing the persuasive power of text.

4 Good News, Bad News

The good news for the United States is that the unemployment rate dropped in 18 states and Washington, D.C., in July. The bad news is that the jobless rate rose in 14 states and stayed the same in 18 others during the same time. Nationally, the unemployment rate in July was 9.5 percent. Private employers added 71,000 jobs in July, but that was at the same time 143,000 U.S. Census jobs ended. Look through the employment ads in the eEdition and find a job you would like after college. Come up with 10 ways you could start preparing for this job now.

Learning Standards: Applying knowledge, ideas and issues drawn from texts to students' lives and the lives of others; acquiring information from multiple sources.

5 High Court History

When Thurgood Marshall was confirmed as a U.S. Supreme Court justice on August 30, 1967, he became the first African American to serve on the nation's highest court. After graduating from Lincoln University in 1930, Marshall applied to the University of Maryland School of Law, but he didn't get

in because the school had a policy against black students studying with white students (segregation). Instead, he went to Howard University Law School. As a lawyer, Marshall worked for years with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). In 24 years as a Supreme Court justice, Marshall left a legacy of protecting rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. Read the eEdition to find an article about a person or group exercising a right guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, such as freedom of speech. If this right weren't guaranteed, how would life be different?

Learning Standards: Explaining how the U.S. Constitution is maintained as the supreme law of the land; responding to a variety of written, visual and electronic texts.

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grades 9-12

1 To Save and Cherish

Many generations of newspaper readers have cut out and saved articles for scrapbooks. But with the eEdition, readers can save a copy that will last much longer than those printed on newsprint. The eEdition allows readers to save a PDF (Portable Document Format) version of an article or even the entire electronic newspaper. Using your mouse, click the "Download" or "Thumb" button. Next, click on the PDF symbol next to the thumbnail of the page you want. You can then save or view that page as a PDF file. Following the instructions above, download an article you would want to keep. If the story continues on another page, be sure to download that page, too. Write about this article and how and why it interested you.

Learning Standards: Understanding the operations and functions of technology systems and becoming proficient in the use of technology; selecting, reading, listening to, viewing and responding thoughtfully to both classic and contemporary texts recognized for quality and literary merit.

2 A Shot in the Arm

A new report by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says that more U.S. teenagers are getting the recommended vaccines to protect them against certain cancers, meningitis and infectious diseases. The report, which surveyed 20,000 teenagers between 13 and 17 years old, showed that more than 40 percent of girls have received at least one dose of a new vaccine to protect against a virus that causes cervical and other cancers. And more than half of those surveyed had received a booster shot that protects against tetanus, whooping cough and diphtheria. Read the eEdition to learn more about a health issue facing your community, state, country or world. Using facts from the article, write about prevention measures that could help alleviate this situation.

Learning Standards: Demonstrating understanding of the complexity of enduring issues and recurring problems by making connections and generating themes within and across texts; writing fluently for multiple purposes.

3 Learning the Hard Way

When a Texas teenager didn't come home on time, her dad put an ad in the newspaper that said, "Want a FREE BABYSITTER for a night out?" The ad, which ran in a newspaper that goes to a wealthy suburb of Dallas-Fort Worth, said that his 16-year-old daughter was in trouble for missing curfew and her punishment was doing 30 hours worth of babysitting for free. The daughter said she won't miss curfew again. Find an issue reported in the eEdition that has happened more than once. Come up with an alternative solution to solving this issue and stopping it from repeating.

Learning Standard: Generating possible alternative resolutions to public issues and evaluating them using criteria that have been identified.

4 Fast Cash

The first automatic teller machine (ATM) opened for business in the United States on September 2, 1969, at Chemical Bank in Rockville Center in New York. By the 1980s, the machines had become popular and replaced many of the jobs previously performed by human tellers, such as handling deposits and money transfers. Today, there are more than 1 million ATMs around the world. Read the eEdition to find an invention that didn't exist or wasn't popular when your grandparents were your age. Write a blog or journal entry about what life would be like without it.

Learning Standards: Showing how common themes of science, mathematics and technology apply in real world contexts; writing fluently for multiple purposes; selectively employing the most effective strategies to construct meaning.

5 Tough Summer

With a national unemployment rate of 9.5 percent in July, it has been a tough summer for many adults in the United States. It has also been tough economically for teenagers. In July, which is usually the prime summer-job season for teens, the unemployment rate for teenagers was 26.1 percent.

Learning Standard: Writing fluently for multiple purposes to produce compositions, such as stories, poetry, personal narratives, editorials, research reports, persuasive essays, resumes and memos.

According to statistics, it was the worst summer hiring season for teens since 1949. Experts say workers under 20 years old have the best chances to land a job in the retail, hospitality, food service, education, health and arts and entertainment industries. Using the employment ads in the eEdition, search for available jobs in the retail, hospitality, food service, health, education or arts and entertainment industries. Choose a job that interests you and write a cover letter telling the employer why you would be the right person for the job.

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