

# news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 2-5

## 1 Mini rex

Among dinosaurs, the huge and fierce Tyrannosaurus rex was one of the most feared meat-eaters. Now a fossil discovery in the Asian nation of China has revealed that T. rex had an early relative that was much smaller – though just as fierce. Scientists working in northeastern China have found a fossil of a T. rex relative that stood just nine feet tall and weighed 150 pounds – 100 times smaller than the giant T. rex that roamed the Earth millions of years later. The smaller T. rex relative lived about 125 million years ago. As a class, talk about what scientists can learn from fossils of dinosaurs and other ancient creatures. Look for fossil news in the eEdition or online. Then write a short poem or rhyme titled “If I Found a Fossil...”

Learning Standards: Engaging peers in constructive conversation about topics of interest or importance; explaining how fossils provide evidence about the nature of ancient life; showing how science concepts can be interpreted through creative expression such as language arts and fine arts.

## 2 An Army First

Command Sergeant Major Teresa King is tough – Army tough. And now the 48-year-old career soldier has made history for the U.S. Army, taking a job for which toughness counts. King has been named the first woman ever to be in charge of an Army school for drill sergeants. Drill sergeants train new soldiers, and they are known for yelling orders and demanding that recruits be all they can be. Sergeant Major King said her father taught her strict discipline in a family of 12 children. As a class talk about ways toughness is important for soldiers in the U.S. military. Then find a job in the eEdition that requires toughness of some kind. It can be mental toughness, physical toughness or another kind. Write a sentence or two explaining why toughness is important to the job.

Learning Standards: Identifying and explaining how people demonstrate good character and personal virtue; acquiring information from multiple sources; writing fluently for multiple purposes.

## 3 Search for Sports

Your eEdition offers many ways to gather information. You can scan stories page by page, or you can use search features to zero in on information. The last month has been a busy one for sports, with the start of the NFL and college football seasons, the Major League Baseball pennant races and the opening of training camps for the NHL. Pick a team that interests you from the eEdition. Then use the search features to see how the team has been making news. Write a paragraph summarizing the most interesting or important reason the team has been in the news.

Learning Standards: Using appropriate technology resources to access information and communicate electronically; becoming proficient with the use of technology.

## 4 What a Flood!

In the southeastern United States incredibly heavy rains have caused some of the worst flooding some communities have ever seen. Some areas got as much as 18 inches of rain over two days, damaging homes, flooding neighborhoods and causing roads and highways to collapse. More than eight people were killed by the floodwaters. As a class, follow stories about violent weather, storms and weather-related news in the eEdition. Pick and read one and design a poster showing people ways to stay safe if faced with this type of violent weather.

Learning Standards: Reading and writing fluently, speaking confidently, listening and interacting appropriately, viewing critically and representing creatively; describing weather conditions and climates.

## 5 Baby, it's Cold Up There

When studying the Earth's solar system, scientists have often figured that the farther things were from the sun at the center of the system, the colder they would be. Now astronomers for America's NASA space agency have discovered what they think is the coldest spot in the solar

system – right on the Earth's moon! An orbiting probe that is mapping temperatures on the moon say a spot on the moon's south pole may be the coldest in the solar system with a temperature measured at 397 degrees BELOW ZERO. That is just 62 degrees warmer than the coldest temperature possible, scientists said, and a degree colder than the coldest temperature on Pluto, which is 40 times farther away from the sun. As a class, find stories about space in the eEdition or online. Pick one and read it for meaning. Then write a sentence or short paragraph describing the thing you found most interesting in the story.

Learning Standards: Explaining how we learn about the universe; explaining how scientists decide what constitutes scientific knowledge; reading and writing fluently for multiple purposes.

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for Tomorrow