

# news BYTES

for eEditions

grades 2-5

## 1 Ancient Treasure

A man who likes to fool around with metal detectors struck it rich this summer in the European country of Britain. Fifty-five-year-old Terry Herbert discovered a treasure of gold, silver and precious objects more than 1,500 years old! Herbert, who is out of work, stumbled on the treasure while exploring a farm in the central part of the country. At least 650 items of gold and 530 silver objects were found, and historians said they represent the largest treasure from the Anglo-Saxon people ever recovered. As a class, talk about ways old things can teach people about the past. Then find a photo of an indoor or outdoor scene in the eEdition. Write out what the scene in the photo could teach people if they came across it in the future.

Learning Standards: Responding to a variety of oral, visual, written and electronic texts by making connections to students' personal lives and the lives of others; comprehending the past; writing fluently for multiple purposes.

## 2 Adverb Search

The Search and Advanced Search features of the eEdition are a great tool for finding information. They also are a great tool for building vocabulary and word power. Adverbs are colorful words that can make your writing stronger and more effective. Adverbs describe the action of verbs or the descriptions of adjectives. Many adverbs end in the letters "ly." Use the search features of the eEdition to find adverbs used to make writing more effective or colorful. Remember to leave a space after the "ly" when you search to make sure you find only words where those letters are at the end of the word. Share words as a class. Then write a paragraph describing how having search functions makes the eEdition an effective tool for learning or gathering information.

Learning Standards: Using technology tools to enhance learning and increase creativity; becoming proficient with the use of technology; describing the impact of technology use on individuals at home, at school and in the workplace.

## 3 More School, More Success

President Obama is a strong believer that education is the key to kids having success as adults. The President and U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan feel schools should add time to classes, teach more weeks in the year, stay open late and let kids in on weekends so they have a safe place to go. As a class, talk about the President's ideas to improve education for American children. Draw a comic strip for the eEdition showing something that you think would improve schools or education.

Learning Standards: Engaging peers in constructive conversation about topics of interest or importance; using the craft of the illustrator to convey ideas artistically.

## 4 She Loves to Work!

Doctors and medicine are helping more and more people live to be 100 – or even older. But few people celebrate their 100th birthday the way a woman did in the state of New Jersey. Astrid Thoenig got dressed and went to work at her family's insurance company – just as she has on weekdays for more than 30 years! Thoenig says her present job is the favorite she has had, working alongside her son and grandson. As a class, talk about the ways older adults remain active today. Then find an example in the eEdition. Write how the activity helps the older person.

Learning Standards: Acquiring information from multiple sources; identifying and explaining how individuals demonstrate good character and personal virtue; writing fluently for multiple purposes.

## 5 Manatee Watch

Manatees are popular, warm-water sea creatures that are the state marine mammal of Florida. But with ocean waters getting warmer around the world, this endangered species is roaming farther and farther during the summer months. That can create a problem when the weather turns

cold again in the fall, according to a wildlife group called the Save the Manatee Club. Manatees that do not get back to warm water in time can suffer "cold stress syndrome" that can be dangerous or even kill them. To keep track of where the manatees are this fall, the club is asking wildlife watchers as far north as Massachusetts to call a special hotline of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service if they spot manatees in cooler northern waters. As a class, talk about the problems faced by endangered animals. Then find a photo of an animal in the eEdition. Write a paragraph describing dangers this animal faces in the world.

Learning Standards: Describing positive and negative effects of humans on nature and wildlife; explaining ecosystem concepts and processes; acquiring information from multiple sources and then organizing, presenting and analyzing it.

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