

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 2-5

1 A 'Green' Step by the President

All over the world, scientists and government leaders are worried about global warming. "Greenhouse gases" produced when people burn fuels like oil and gasoline are a particular worry, because they trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere. This month, President Obama ordered every agency of the federal government to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases they produce. The President also ordered agencies to use less energy, reduce waste and buy more "green" products that are environmentally sound. With classmates, talk about ways families can make "green" choices or use less fuel that creates greenhouse gases. Find stories about people "going green." Then draw a comic strip for the eEdition showing a family "going green."

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.

2 Better Foods at Schools

A new report from the nation's top health agency has found that more high schools and middle schools are cutting back sales of candy and salty snacks to students. The study by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that the median percentage of middle and high schools selling sugary or salty snacks dropped from 54 percent to 36 percent across the nation. Candy and salty snacks can contribute to weight problems among children and can lead to high blood pressure or heart problems in later life. As a class, talk about ways students and their families can live healthier lives. Then find a photo in the eEdition of someone getting exercise or making a healthy choice. Write a poem or rap describing what is healthy in the picture.

Learning Standards: Reading and writing fluently, speaking confidently, listening and interacting appropriately, viewing critically and representing creatively; applying knowledge, ideas and issues drawn from texts to students' lives and the lives of others.

3 Living to Be 100

Would you like to live to the age of 100? A new study by scientists from the European country of Denmark predicts that half of all babies born today in richer countries like the United States will live to be 100. On top of that, those that do will be healthier and more active than elders who lived that long in the past. The study looked at the lives of elders in more than 30 of the world's richest nations. Find a story or photo in the eEdition about an elder doing something positive in the community. Write a sentence or two describing how this elder's activities help the person.

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.

4 Search by Date

Your eEdition allows you to get information in a variety of ways. One feature allows you to search the eEdition from different days. This can be done by using the toolbar option that allows you to view eEditions by date. Find that option on the home page of your eEdition. Then scan the front page of the eEdition for every day over the last week. List what the top stories were on each day. Were stories on the same topic front-page news on different days? Write a paragraph summarizing the top story for the week and why that story got front-page coverage.

Learning Standard: Understanding the operations and functions of technology systems and becoming proficient in the use of technology.

5 Eat Right with 'The Simpsons'

The TV show "The Simpsons" is popular all over the world. And now health leaders in the European country of Great Britain are hoping that popularity can get people to eat healthier foods. The British Department of Health is spending more than \$1 million to sponsor episodes of the cartoon series on

Learning Standards: Acquiring information from multiple sources; comprehending what constitutes good health and nutrition; showing how science concepts can be interpreted through creative expression such as language arts and fine arts.

British TV as part of its healthy living Change4Life Campaign. Before each show, cartoon characters pretending to be the Simpsons will give viewers tips on ways to replace unhealthy foods and snacks with healthier choices. The decision to sponsor "The Simpsons" surprised some viewers, because Homer Simpson is known for loving unhealthy treats like doughnuts. But British health leaders say that the Simpsons provide "a popular and engaging way" to get people's attention about healthier living. Talk about foods that are healthy for snacks and meals. Then use the food ads in the eEdition to make a menu for healthy meals for your family.

A Teaching Tool
for Tomorrow