

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 2-5

1 Really Rare Bird

What is the least known bird in the world? According to a report by an international wildlife group, the honor goes to the large-billed reed warbler. The species, which lives on the continent of Asia, was spotted only twice in nearly 150 years, even though scientists were looking out for it. Now a community of reed warblers has been found living and breeding successfully in a remote area of the war-torn country of Afghanistan. As a class, talk about how important habitat is to the survival of wild animals. Then find a photo of an outdoor scene in the eEdition. Make a list of the most important natural features of the scene and how they could support wildlife.

Learning Standards: Engaging peers in constructive conversation about topics of interest or importance; explaining ecosystem concepts and processes; acquiring information from multiple sources.

2 Yummy Wall of China

The Great Wall of China is one of the most amazing things ever built on Earth. It's now one of the most amazing chocolate treats, too! A team of chocolate makers in the Asian nation have made a 33-foot-long model of the Great Wall for display this month at the World Chocolate Wonderland exhibition in the city of Beijing. The makers took care to make their model of the 4,000-mile Great Wall accurate, even including a section at one end where the Wall is crumbling. They hope their creation will encourage Chinese people to eat more chocolate. Businesses are always looking for creative ways to get people to use their products. Search the eEdition for an ad doing something creative to catch your attention. Write a paragraph explaining why you think the ad is effective.

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

3 Cat Temple

In ancient Egypt, cats were so important that there was a cat goddess named Bastet that people worshipped. This month scientists announced that a discovery on the coast of Egypt may shed new light on Bastet. Scientists working in the seacoast city of Alexandria have found a 2,000-year-old temple that may have been dedicated to Bastet. Animals were very important to many ancient peoples. Pretend that you lived in an ancient country and wanted to worship an animal you liked. Find an animal in the eEdition that you would choose and write a paragraph to explain why.

Learning Standard: Reading and writing fluently, speaking confidently, listening and interacting appropriately, viewing critically and representing creatively.

4 Print, e-Mail, Download

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Learning Standards: Building on productivity tools to collaborate and interact with peers and other audiences using telecommunications and media; describing uses of technology in daily life.

5 Big Bible Discovery

For more than 2,600 years, the Bible has been one of the most important religious books in the world. And now a discovery in the Middle East country of Israel may show that the oldest portions of the Bible were written hundreds of years earlier than history experts had thought. The discovery

was a piece of pottery dating back 3,000 years that had ancient Hebrew writing on its surface. The Old Testament of the Bible is believed to have first been written in ancient Hebrew, but until now experts had not thought the written Hebrew language existed before 2,600 years ago. If written Hebrew existed earlier, it could mean the earliest parts of the Bible were written earlier, too. As a class, talk about ways scientists learn about the past. Then brainstorm a list of ways scientists could study the past in your area. Finish by drawing a comic strip for the eEdition, showing scientists studying a popular area in your community.

Learning Standards: Posing social science questions; comprehending the past; using the craft of the illustrator to express ideas artistically.

A Teaching Tool
for Tomorrow