

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 6-8

1 Inventor

On February 14, 1859, George Ferris was born in Galesburg, Illinois. When Ferris grew up, he became an engineer. He designed an amusement park ride that became known as the Ferris wheel. In groups, look through the eEdition and find inventions named after their inventor, or locations and streets named after someone. See how many you can come up with. If you were going to have something named after you, what would you like it to be? Discuss your ideas with your group.

Learning Standards: Using reading for multiple purposes, such as enjoyment, clarifying information and learning complex procedures; acquiring information from multiple sources.

2 Let's Move

Last week First Lady Michelle Obama launched a campaign against childhood obesity called "Let's Move." As part of the campaign, the American Beverage Association has promised to put clearer calorie labels on the front of cans, bottles and vending machines, and some companies that supply food to school cafeterias have pledged to reduce the amounts of sugar, fat and salt in their products. Pair off with a classmate and use the eEdition and online sources to come up with another idea for how kids can be healthier. It can be something a kid, a family, a school or a company can do. Put together a presentation explaining your idea to the class.

Learning Standards: Communicating information accurately and effectively and demonstrating expressive abilities by creating oral, written and visual texts that enlighten and engage an audience; comprehending what constitutes good health and nutrition.

3 Suffrage

Susan B. Anthony was born on February 15, 1820. Anthony spent her life fighting for women's rights, including the right to vote. She also fought to end slavery. Find a woman in the eEdition making news by fighting for a cause or by being successful in her position or field. Write a short biography of her to present to the class and come up with a creative way to illustrate the life of the woman you chose.

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

4 Happy Birthday

February 15 is Presidents Day, a federal holiday that originally was created to celebrate the birthday of President George Washington, but now also honors President Abraham Lincoln. Read in the eEdition about ways people are acknowledging Presidents Day this year. In groups, pick a U.S. president who is not Washington or Lincoln. Make sure every group in the class has a different president. Learn about your president in books or online. Write a skit that talks about his life and accomplishments and perform it for the class.

Learning Standards: Reading and writing fluently, speaking confidently, listening and interacting appropriately and representing creatively; understanding narratives about major eras of American history by identifying the people involved and sequencing the events.

5 Search for Sports News!

Every day, your eEdition allows you to find stories that interest you. Your eEdition also allows you to search recent editions of the electronic newspaper for related stories. Go to the sports section of the eEdition and scan the pages for a story that interests you. Read the story and write a short paragraph

summarizing the news and explaining why it interests you. Then use the Advanced Search feature in the toolbar at the top of the page to find other stories on the same athlete or team. Find the stories electronically and read them. Then write a paragraph describing how having the ability to search for recent stories can be a benefit to readers.

Learning Standards: Defining subject searching and devising a search strategy to locate information using available electronic research resources; demonstrating knowledge of changes in technologies and the effect those changes have.

A Teaching Tool
for Tomorrow