

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 6-8

1 Census Takers

The U.S. government is mailing out census forms to homes across the country and urging people to fill them out and send them back. The government conducts a census every 10 years. The census gathers information about the country's population, including how many people there are, where they live and what they do. Create a "census" questionnaire based on this week's eEdition. In groups, make a list of five questions about the eEdition. For example, you might ask "Where do people mentioned in the eEdition this week live?" or "How many articles are on an average page in the eEdition?" Compile information to answer the questions. Then display the information in charts or graphs.

Learning Standards: Using reading for multiple purposes, such as enjoyment, clarifying information and learning complex procedures; organizing data using tables, charts, graphs, spreadsheets and data bases.

2 Advertisement

Michigan-based Domino's Pizza more than doubled its profits for the last quarter, thanks in part to an ad campaign that panned the pizza. Domino's ran a series of documentary-style commercials with customers complaining about the pizza, and Domino's workers reporting that the company has changed and is now using a better-tasting recipe. In groups, pick a product in the eEdition and design a commercial for it. Write a script for your commercial and create a visual aid, such as a poster, chart or other prop. Present your commercial to the class.

Learning Standards: Analyzing how purchasers obtain information about goods and services from advertising and other sources; demonstrating expressive abilities by creating oral, written and visual texts that enlighten and engage an audience.

3 Rotation

The length of a day on planet Earth may now be shorter because of a massive earthquake that struck Chile, a country in South America, a NASA scientist said last week. Scientist Richard Gross said that the earthquake was so strong it may have affected the rotation of the Earth, making each day shorter by 1.26 milliseconds. In groups, use the eEdition and the Internet to create a presentation for the class about ways natural or human events affect the Earth. It can focus on a news story, an event, a person or anything else your group finds interesting and wants to share.

Learning Standards: Acquiring information from multiple sources; explaining ecosystem concepts and processes; describing positive and negative effects of humans on the environment; engaging peers in constructive conversation about topics of interest or importance.

4 Spring Forward

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 14 at 2 a.m. At that time, people will move their clocks ahead one hour. Read about Daylight Saving Time, including why it was created and what it's intended to do. Find three things in the eEdition that are affected by Daylight Saving Time. For each, write a sentence or two explaining how it will be affected, and why that is interesting or important.

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

5 Find a Car

Your eEdition makes a lot of information available on your home or school computer with just a click of a mouse or a few key strokes. Being able to view information from the eEdition on a computer this way can help with consumer decisions. Say your family wanted to buy a car. Using the front

page Index, find the Classified Ad section of today's eEdition. Page through the Classifieds until you find the auto ads. Click on several boxed display ads and write out a car and model that would appeal to you. Record what auto dealer is selling the car, what the asking price is and other information important to you. Then click on Classified Ads offering new or pre-owned cars for sale. Write down a car and model that interests you, the asking price and other important information. Finish by writing a paragraph describing what you feel are the benefits of being able to shop for consumer items with the technology of an eEdition.

Learning Standards: Using a variety of technology tools for data collection and analysis to support a decision; identifying capabilities and limitations of contemporary and emerging technology resources.

A Teaching Tool
for Tomorrow