

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 9-12

1 Detroit

In Michigan, the City of Detroit is talking about turning some blighted neighborhoods filled with abandoned houses back into farmland. The city would tear down houses, move residents into other neighborhoods and plant fields and farms to replace the houses. According to a recent Associated Press article, Detroit has an estimated 33,500 vacant houses and 91,000 vacant residential lots. Using the eEdition for ideas, come up with other ways the government, businesses, schools, community groups or individual people could address a problem, or problems, in Detroit or another city. Write a letter to the mayor of the city outlining your ideas.

Learning Standards: Composing coherent written essays that express a position on a public issue and justifying the position with reasoned arguments; conducting an investigation prompted by a social science question and comparing alternative interpretations of the findings.

2 3-D

Electronics companies Samsung and Panasonic started selling 3-D televisions in U.S. stores last week, and Sony announced that it will introduce its 3-D TVs this summer. The three companies are hoping to capitalize on the public's enthusiasm for 3-D movies. Find an article in the eEdition about a new technology. It can be in entertainment, medicine, science, sports or any other field. Write a brief summary explaining what it is. Then make a prediction for how it will change its field and how people will respond to it.

Learning Standards: Showing how common themes of science, mathematics and technology apply in real world contexts; asking questions that help students learn about the world; designing and conducting investigations using appropriate methodology and technology.

3 Bananas

A company in Australia has come up with a new line of underwear made from an unusual material: bananas. The underwear, made from the bark of banana trees and cotton, is being touted as environmentally friendly. Look for other examples of innovative products in this week's eEdition. Or find examples online. In groups, come up with an inventive idea for a product. It can be serious or silly. Draw a sketch or diagram of your product. Share it with the class.

Learning Standards: Reading and writing fluently, speaking confidently, listening and interacting appropriately, viewing critically and representing creatively; engaging peers in constructive conversation about topics of interest or importance.

4 Iraq

On March 20, 2003, the United States launched missiles on targets in Baghdad, the capital of the Middle East country of Iraq. The attack marked the beginning of a U.S.-led campaign to remove Iraq's leader, Saddam Hussein. Seven years later, more than 100,000 U.S. troops are still in Iraq. Using the eEdition and online news sources, write a summary of what's currently going on in Iraq. As a class, discuss what you learned.

Learning Standards: Understanding how the world is organized politically, the formation of American foreign policy and the roles the U.S. plays in the international arena; explaining how a particular public issue became a problem or issue of concern.

5 Search for NCAA News!

The "March Madness" of the NCAA college basketball tournaments is getting lots of attention across the country. Every day, your eEdition allows you to find stories that interest you and to search recent editions of the newspaper for related stories. Go to the sports section of the eEdition and scan

the pages for stories about the NCAA men's and women's Division I tournaments. Read one 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 tournaments. 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.

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For Tomorrow