

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 9-12

1 Health Care

Last week President Obama signed into law a historic health care reform bill that will change how health insurance works for millions of people. The bill is about 2,000 pages long, so chances are good that even the politicians who voted in favor of it don't understand all the details. In groups, find an article in the eEdition about health care reform. Write down three questions about the information the article presents. Then use the eEdition, books and the Internet to answer the questions. Write out your answers in complete sentences and short paragraphs.

Learning Standards: Reading and comprehending general and technical material; locating information pertaining to a specific social science topic in-depth using a variety of sources and electronic technologies.

2 At the Movies

The movie "Alice in Wonderland" has proven popular with filmgoers, making more money in the theaters over the last few weekends than any other recently released film. "Alice in Wonderland" is based on Lewis Carroll's classic novel, "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland." Find a story in this week's eEdition that would make a good basis for a movie. Write an outline of your movie's plot. You can be creative by adding characters or settings.

Learning Standard: Writing fluently for multiple purposes to produce compositions, such as stories, poetry, personal narratives, editorials, research reports, persuasive essays, resumes and memos.

3 Fools

April 1 is April Fools' Day, a time to pull pranks and make jokes. Many newspapers and magazines publish April Fools' editions filled with silly, outlandish, untrue stories. Pretend you're a reporter and write an article for a newspaper's April Fools' issue. Base it on something that's making news this week in your eEdition, but change facts, people or events to make it wacky and funny. For inspiration, go online and visit The Onion Web site at www.theonion.com.

Learning Standard: Exploring and using the characteristics of different types of texts, aesthetic elements and mechanics, including text structure, figurative and descriptive language, spelling, punctuation, and grammar, to construct and convey meaning.

4 Bad Water

Every year, more people die from polluted water than from all kinds of violence, including war, according to a new report from the United Nations. Polluted water spreads disease and damages ecosystems. Read about pollution in the eEdition and online. In groups, come up with three things teens can do to help stop pollution. Make a poster about one or more of your ideas to encourage your peers to take action.

Learning Standard: Recognizing and using varied innovative techniques to construct text, convey meaning and express feelings to influence an audience.

5 Pull-Down Menus

Every once in a while it's good to review the tools of your eEdition. The toolbar at the top or side of your eEdition, for example, allows you to move through the eEdition with pull-down menus. Pull-down menus may allow you to pick specific pages to visit by number. They may allow you to pick

specific sections of the eEdition. They may allow you to visit eEditions from different dates. Or they may allow you to visit different editions that focus on different areas of your region. Try each type of pull-down menu. Write a complete sentence for each summarizing its advantages. As a class, finish by discussing what you like most, or least, about each method.

Learning Standards: Using technology tools to enhance learning and increase productivity and creativity; discussing the positive and negative impact of technologies such as computers on daily life.

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For Tomorrow