

# news {..BYTES..}

## for eEditions

grades 6-8

### 1 Search For Opinion

An eEdition offers a variety of features that let you find information quickly. And once you find something that interests you, eEditions let you learn more with search features. With the toolbars or Index, find the editorial page in today's eEdition. Click on an editorial to enlarge or display it. Read the editorial to see what it is about and what points the writer is emphasizing. Then use the Search or Advanced Search feature of the eEdition to see what stories have appeared in the eEdition about this subject. Write a paragraph describing the issues that inspired the editorial. Write a second paragraph describing how having the tools of the eEdition can assist readers in gathering information.

Learning Standards: Locating information from electronic resources; describing the impact of technology use on individuals at home, at school and in the workplace.

### 2 Yelp

Yelp is an online city guide that lets users in many different cities share their opinions on restaurants, shops and other businesses. Recently Yelp received criticism over its method of removing reviews its system labeled fake or unfair. In response, last week Yelp said users will now be able to see the removed reviews if they wish. In groups, create a Yelp-like guide to reading the eEdition this week. Write reviews of at least three different articles, ads or photos. Discuss your reviews in groups or as a class.

Learning Standards: Focusing on meaning and communication while listening, speaking, viewing, reading and writing in personal, social, occupational and civic contexts; developing and applying critical standards for individual use.

### 3 MLB

The Major League Baseball season has just begun. Teams across the country are showing off their stars and newly acquired players, and sports forecasters are analyzing who will wind up in the World Series. Using news articles and online sources, make a chart comparing four baseball teams on different types of statistics. Then use your chart to make a prediction for which team will be most successful this year.

Learning Standards: Acquiring information from multiple sources; organizing data using tables, charts, graphs, spreadsheets and databases.

### 4 Library

This week is National Library Week, a celebration of the contributions of libraries and librarians. This year's Library Week theme is "Communities Thrive @ Your Library." ("@ Your Library" is the name of the American Library Association's national campaign to promote libraries.) Look in the eEdition or online to see what's going on at a library in your community this month. Write an eEdition editorial explaining why a library is an important part of a community.

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

### 5 Dracula

The University of Hertfordshire in the United Kingdom in Europe is holding a conference on vampires that is designed "to take vampires back" from Americans. Sam George, who's organizing the conference, said that the original book "Dracula" was written by a man from

Ireland and set in London, but with the "Twilight" movies and books and other American vampire shows, vampires have become "Americanized." What does it mean to have an "Americanized" view of the world? As a class, discuss things that Americans may have a different view of than people living in another country. Then pick a foreign city or country mentioned in the eEdition. Using books and online sources, write a paragraph or short essay explaining cultural and social differences between this place and the United States.

Learning Standards: Engaging peers in constructive conversation about topics of interest or importance; locating and describing the cultures of communities; appreciating the diversity of cultures; writing fluently for multiple purposes.

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