

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 6-8

1 Use That Index!

The front page Index of your eEdition lets you find information about what is inside the eEdition in an easy way. And every once in a while it's good to review how it works. Click on the Index on Page 1 of today's eEdition. Then go to the tool bar at the top of the page and find the pull-down that offers readers a Visual or Graphic Mode and a Text Mode. With the Index open, try each mode. What do you see with each mode? What are the advantages of each mode? Finish by writing a complete sentence explaining which mode you think you would use the most.

Learning Standards: Using prescribed technology tools for data collection and analysis; describing uses of technology in daily life.

2 Nobel Prize

Last week two scientists who helped invent the digital camera were awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics. William Boyle and George Smith came up with a technology that can process pixels, the tiny dots that make up digital images. Look through the articles and ads in the eEdition and find an example of something people use in their homes that relies on technology. Using the Internet and books, draw a diagram of it and write a paragraph explaining how it works.

Learning Standards: Asking questions that help students learn about the world; designing and conducting investigations using appropriate methodology and technology; learning from books and other sources of information; communicating findings using appropriate technology.

3 Webster

Noah Webster, the man who wrote the first American dictionary, was born on October 16, 1758. He lived in Connecticut, but now his house is in Greenfield Village in Dearborn, Michigan. Pick an article in the eEdition and rewrite it using the biggest, fanciest words you can come up with. Use the dictionary and the thesaurus for help. Then trade your article with a classmate and edit each other's work, making sure there are no spelling mistakes or words used incorrectly.

Learning Standards: Planning and drafting texts; revising and editing their own writing; helping others revise and edit their texts in such areas as content, perspective and effect.

4 The President's House

Construction on the White House in Washington, D.C., began on October 13, 1792. John Adams, the first president to live there, moved in eight years later, in 1800. Look through the eEdition and online and find three other famous buildings. At least one of them should be in another country. For each, research and write a paragraph explaining the history of the building and why it's famous.

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

5 Number One

In this year's United Nations report on the best countries to live in, the European country of Norway was rated number one. Australia and Iceland were two and three. How does the United States compare? In groups, use the eEdition, books and online sources to make a chart comparing the U.S.

and two other countries. Include how much money the average person makes, how many people are poor, how many people can read, what the country produces and what the country imports (or buys) from other countries. A World Almanac or the CIA World Factbook online are good resources. For each country, also write down three things making news this week.

Learning Standards: Describing, comparing and explaining the locations and characteristics of races, cultures and settlements; acquiring information from written, visual and electronic sources; organizing and analyzing the information.

A Teaching Tool
for Tomorrow