

# news {..BYTES..}

## for eEditions

grades 9-12

1

### Education

The Baby Einstein Company is offering refunds for its DVDs geared toward young children after the Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood complained that the DVDs were deceptively marketed as being educational. How would you educate little kids? In groups, pick a news story in the eEdition. Design a fun way to convey the story to kids. You can write a skit, make a poster or anything else. Share what you created with the class. To perfect your creation, ask the class to offer specific, constructive criticism.

Learning Standard: Reading and writing fluently, speaking confidently, listening and interacting appropriately, viewing critically and representing creatively.

2

### Poetry

T.S. Eliot won the Nobel Prize in Literature on November 4, 1948. Though Eliot is best known for his poems, he was also an influential literary critic. Pick an article in the eEdition that interests you. Then write a poem based on the article. Trade your poem with a classmate. Edit your classmate's poem, making sure to explain any changes you suggest. Trade your poems back and review your classmate's critique of your poem. Follow up by asking your classmate to explain anything that's unclear or that you disagree with. Finish by taking turns reading your poems aloud to the class – with feeling! Which of your poems could be turned into songs or raps?

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

3

### Smart Electricity

Last week, President Obama announced the creation of 100 grants totaling \$3.4 billion to enable electric companies to use smart grids. Using the eEdition and other resources, research what a smart grid is and what its purpose is. Write a paragraph summarizing your findings and how smart grids could change the way people use electricity.

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.

4

### Troops

Nearly 60 U.S. soldiers were killed in Afghanistan last month, making it the deadliest month for the U.S. military there since October 2001, when the war in Afghanistan began. Use the eEdition and online sources to write a summary of what's currently going on in Afghanistan. Include a paragraph about the debate over whether the U.S. government should send more soldiers into the country.

Learning Standards: Understanding how the world is organized politically, the formation of American foreign policy and the roles the United States plays in the international arena; writing fluently for multiple purposes.

5

### eEdition Prefixes

Electronic editions allow you to search their content for stories or topics that interest you. This ability to search also can help you build vocabulary and word skills. You can search, for example, to see how many times a word appears in the paper. Or you can search to see how many times a prefix

appears. As a class, review how prefixes are added to the front of words to change their meaning. Then search today's eEdition to see how often the prefix "un" appears. Remember to leave a space before the "un" when you type it into the search window so that you only get the beginning of words! Follow up by searching for other common prefixes. Finish by writing a paragraph describing how having search functions helps eEdition readers find information they want or need.

Learning Standards: Using technology tools to enhance learning; understanding the operations and functions of technology systems and becoming proficient in the use of technology.

A Teaching Tool  
For Tomorrow