

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 2-5

1

More Soldiers

For eight years, U.S. soldiers have been fighting a war in Afghanistan in an effort to capture terrorists who attacked the United States on September 11, 2001. Now President Obama has decided to expand the effort by sending more than 30,000 additional soldiers to fight there. The President's decision will bring the total of U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan to more than 100,000 and will affect military families in every state in the nation. As a class, talk about reasons nations go to war. Then talk about the feelings your family has about the decision to send more soldiers to Afghanistan. Write a letter to the editor of the eEdition telling President Obama what you think he should do next.

Learning Standards: Acquiring information from multiple sources and then organizing and analyzing it; explaining how a particular public issue became a problem or issue of concern; writing fluently for multiple purposes.

2

RecycleMania

All over the world kids, families, schools and businesses have gotten the recycling "bug." And they are looking for ways to get more people involved. One way to increase interest is a contest called RecycleMania. In this event, students and teachers at colleges and universities compete to see who can reduce, reuse and recycle the most waste during a 10-week period. This year's competition starts January 17 and runs through March 27. Last year, 4.7 million students and 1.1 million teachers from 510 colleges and universities recycled or composted more than 69.4 million pounds of waste during the 10-week RecycleMania. With a partner, find items in the eEdition that can be recycled. Use what you find to design a poster explaining why it is important to recycle.

Learning Standards: Responding to a variety of texts by making connections to students' personal lives and the lives of others; describing positive and negative effects of humans on the environment; representing creatively.

3

Searching for Michael

Internet search engines like Google and Yahoo! make it possible for anyone to learn about things with a few clicks or keystrokes on home or school computers. So what topic was the target of the most searches this year? On the Yahoo! search engine, music star Michael Jackson was Number 1 this year, after dying unexpectedly while rehearsing for a comeback this summer. Number 2 on the Yahoo! list released last week were the "Twilight" vampire movies. In the eEdition find a celebrity you would like to know more about. Then write out three things you would like to know, and why.

Learning Standards: Acquiring information from books, maps, newspapers, eEditions, data sets and other sources; organizing and presenting the information; interpreting the meaning and significance of the information; posing social science questions.

4

Section Fronts

Your eEdition allows you to quickly move from section to section to see what the top stories are. In the toolbar at the top or side of the page, pull-down menus allow you to look at the front page of each section to see what stories interest you. With a partner, find the pull-down menu that lets you move through the eEdition section by section. Look at the front page of three sections and write down the story in each section that is given the biggest display. Write a sentence for each explaining why it was displayed the way it was in the eEdition.

Learning Standards: Using appropriate technology resources to access information and communicate electronically; describing uses of technology in daily life.

5

Jimmy Fund Kids

Every year, big companies do all they can to make money and be successful. Many also do a lot to help kids or charity groups. This year, more than 500 Burger King restaurants in 10 states took part in the 10th annual fundraising campaign called A Chance for Kids. As a result, more than

\$839,000 was raised to support children's cancer research at the Jimmy Fund clinic of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, Massachusetts. The restaurants raised the funds by offering a contest for customers who agreed to donate \$1 to the Jimmy Fund, which has been helping children with cancer for 61 years. Prizes ranged from vacations to airline tickets to free theme-park visits to menu items. As a class, talk about groups or businesses that help kids and families. Then draw an editorial cartoon for the eEdition showing the benefit of helping others during the holiday season.

Learning Standards: Identifying and explaining how people demonstrate good character and personal virtue; acquiring information from multiple sources; writing fluently for multiple purposes.

A Teaching Tool
for Tomorrow