

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 2-5

1 Conjunction Search

The Search and Advanced Search features of the eEdition are great tools for finding information. They also are great tools for building vocabulary and word power. Conjunctions are words that connect words, phrases, clauses or sentences. Examples include “and,” “but,” “if” or “when.” Use the search features of the eEdition to find which conjunctions are used most often in news writing. Search for “and,” “but,” “if” or “when” and at least two other conjunctions you choose as a class. Share your findings as a class and discuss. Then write a paragraph describing how having search functions makes the eEdition an effective tool for learning or gathering information.

Learning Standards: Using technology tools to enhance learning and increase creativity; becoming proficient with the use of technology; describing the impact of technology use on individuals at home, at school and in the workplace.

2 Big Solar Plant

All over the world people are looking for new sources of energy to replace coal, oil and gasoline. One of the sources getting a lot of attention is sun power, which can run solar energy plants that produce electricity. The Asian island of Taiwan, which has lots of sunny weather, has turned to solar in a big way – make that a REALLY big way. Taiwan has just opened what its government calls the biggest solar plant on the continent of Asia. The plant covers nearly five acres of ground and has 141 huge solar panels. As a class, talk about the advantages and disadvantages of relying on the sun for electrical power. Then draw a comic strip for the eEdition, showing something good or not so good about solar energy.

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

3 Serena's Star Power

Serena Williams had a great year in women's tennis in 2009, and now she has been voted the best female athlete in all of sports. Williams was the runaway winner for Female Athlete of the Year in voting of sports editors at newspapers across the country. The Associated Press honor came after Williams earned the Number 1 ranking for women, \$6.5 million in prize money and three top singles titles. As a class, read an eEdition story about a top women's athlete or team. List what you think are the most important points in the story. Then design a poster using those points.

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; representing creatively.

4 MLK

Civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15, 1929. He used his intelligence, strength and character to lead African Americans in a fight for civil rights and for equality for all races. As a class, read about another great person in today's eEdition. Then create a list on the chalkboard of talents, skills and personal qualities that have made this person great.

Learning Standard: Identifying and explaining how individuals in history demonstrate good character and personal virtue.

5 One Old Fish

The largest freshwater fish in North America is a toothless beast that has been living in a river in the state of Montana since the time of the dinosaurs. But the Kootenai River white sturgeon is now threatened with extinction unless wildlife officials can figure out a way to get it to

spawn and reproduce in the wild. The construction of a dam on the river in 1974 upset the natural flow of water and limited the sturgeon's spawning efforts. As a result, the number of sturgeon in the Kootenai has dropped from more than 10,000 to fewer than 500. As a class, talk about the ways human actions can affect wildlife. Then find a story or photo of a wild animal in the eEdition. Write out things that could cause problems for the animal in the wild.

Learning Standards: Explaining ecosystem concepts and processes; describing positive and negative effects of humans on nature and wildlife; acquiring information from multiple sources.

A Teaching Tool
for Tomorrow