

# news {..BYTES..}

## for eEditions

grades 6-8

### 1 Conjunction Search

The Search and Advanced Search features of the eEdition are a great tool 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 Ronald McDonald

The organization known as Corporate Accountability International is asking Ronald McDonald to retire. The watchdog group says that the McDonald’s mascot encourages kids to eat unhealthy fast food, which contributes to the nation’s “childhood obesity crisis.” The group wants the company to stop advertising to children because more and more children are overweight. Mascots are used by many companies, organizations and sports teams. Find examples in the eEdition. In groups, design a mascot or symbol for your class or school. Show your design to the class and explain what it represents.

Learning Standard: Focusing on meaning and communication while listening, speaking, viewing, reading and writing in personal, social, occupational and civic contexts.

### 3 Art

Artist Pablo Picasso died on April 8, 1973, at age 91. One of Picasso’s most famous paintings is called “Guernica.” It’s based on the bombing of the Spanish town of Guernica by German and Spanish war planes in April 1937 during the Spanish Civil War. The painting is abstract, and it depicts death, violence and suffering. Pick an article in the eEdition this week and create a drawing, painting or collage in response to it. Give your work a creative title and discuss it with your classmates.

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

### 4 Dr. King

Civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was shot and killed on April 4, 1968, at the age of 39. He was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, where he was leading a protest of sanitation workers who were fighting against poor working conditions. Find another example in the news of a leader like Dr. King fighting for people’s rights. Do research with the eEdition, the Internet and other resources and write a biography of the person.

Learning Standard: Demonstrating the ability to write clear and grammatically correct sentences, paragraphs and compositions.

### 5 Xerox

The Xerox copy machine just turned 50. Now that everyone relies on computers and email, the copy machine has become outdated. But for years a copy machine was a key part of a productive office and even considered one of the most successful products in American history. Look through

the articles and ads in the eEdition and pick three common products that you, your school or businesses use all the time. For each product, write down what it is and what it’s used for. Then pretend the product doesn’t exist, and write a few sentences explaining how someone could accomplish the same task without the product.

Learning Standards: Asking questions that help students learn about the world; designing and conducting investigations using appropriate methodology and technology; writing fluently for multiple purposes.

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