

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 9-12

1 Wiser

A new study led by Richard Nisbett of the University of Michigan has found that older people are more likely than younger people to acknowledge others' points of view and recognize that not everyone holds the same values. In other words, older people are wiser. Nisbett said the study shows "the elderly have some advantages for analysis of social problems." Show Nisbett that younger people can solve problems, too, by doing the following activity. In groups, pick an article in the eEdition about a problem or conflict in the world. Brainstorm creative ways the problem could be addressed. Discuss your ideas as a class.

Learning Standard: Engaging peers in constructive conversation about matters of public concern by clarifying issues, considering opposing views, applying democratic values, anticipating consequences and working toward making decisions.

2 Da Vinci's Diagrams

Artist, engineer and inventor Leonardo da Vinci was born on April 15, 1492. Da Vinci studied the world around him and came up with ideas for different types of machines, and even painted the famous picture known as the "Mona Lisa." He kept extensive journals filled with thoughts, observations and diagrams showing how things work, or could work. Find a machine in the eEdition. It can be an engine, an elevator, a toy or anything else. Draw and label a diagram showing how you think it works. Then do further research to see how accurate your explanation was.

Learning Standards: Asking questions that help students learn about the world; responding analytically and critically to a variety of written, visual, oral and electronic texts; designing and conducting investigations using appropriate methodology and technology.

3 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.

4 Talk Show

April 12 is talk show host David Letterman's birthday. In the tradition of nighttime talk shows, Letterman opens his show with a monologue that makes jokes about current events. Pretend you're a writer for a talk-show host like Letterman and write a funny monologue or speech about what's going on in the world. Use the eEdition to see what's currently making headlines. Share your monologue with the class.

Learning Standard: Demonstrating how language usage is related to successful communication in different spoken, written and visual communication contexts, such as job interviews, public speeches, debates and advertising.

5 Globetrotter

A group of college students have come up with a new way for friends on spring break to keep in touch. Gtrot – www.gtrot.com – is a site that links up to Facebook and shows you where your friends are headed on vacation, how they're getting there and what they're doing once they arrive. It also

helps users do things like book tickets and share cab rides to the airport. In groups, use the eEdition to brainstorm ideas and come up with a concept for a Web site your peers would want to use. It can be fun, silly or serious. Write down a description of it, then explain your idea to the class and ask for their feedback.

Learning Standards: Applying knowledge, ideas and issues drawn from texts to students' lives and the lives of others; writing fluently for multiple purposes.

A Teaching Tool
For Tomorrow