

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 2-5

1 Sun Power

All over the world, people are looking at sunshine as a source of energy to replace fuels like gas and oil. Now the U.S. energy company First Solar has gotten a deal to build the world's largest solar power plant in the Asian nation of China. China is looking to expand its ability to produce electricity from sunlight as part of a goal to provide 10 percent of its energy from renewable resources by 2010 and 15 percent by 2020. As a class talk about the advantages of renewable sources of energy. Then find a story about energy in the eEdition or online. Write a sentence or two about how renewable energy like solar power could help supply people with the electricity they need in the future.

Learning Standards: Showing how common themes of science, mathematics and technology apply in real world contexts; developing and applying critical standards for individual use.

2 Giant Rats, Frogs With Fangs

Scientists who study wildlife are always looking for new or rare species. Now a scientific team in the Southeast Asian country of Papua New Guinea has discovered a gold mine of rare wildlife in an extinct volcano. Among the species recorded by a BBC scientific crew are a giant rat three feet long, a frog with fangs, a butterfly the size of a book and 40 other creatures previously unknown to science. As a class, talk about reasons scientists study wildlife in the world. Then find stories or photos about wildlife in the eEdition. Pick one and brainstorm a list of reasons scientists might be interested in this species.

Learning Standards: Engaging peers in constructive conversation about topics of interest or importance; explaining ecosystem concepts and processes; writing fluently for multiple purposes.

3 Getting Ready For the Day

Fall officially begins next week, and you may already be noticing a change in the weather. Experts on weather also are noticing changes as they make their daily forecasts. Weather forecasts can help you make sure you will be dressed properly. Look at the weather page in today's eEdition. Draw a picture of yourself dressed properly for tomorrow's weather. Then find a city or country listed on that page that begins with the same letter as your first or last name. Find out what the weather will be like there tomorrow. Draw a picture of a student your age who is dressed for the weather in that place.

Learning Standards: Describing weather conditions and climates; using the craft of the illustrator to convey ideas artistically.

4 eEdition Word Search

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. As a class talk about the big news in sports this week. Then make a list of players, coaches or topics that are in the news. Search the eEdition for a day or a week to see how many times each name or word appears in stories. Then create a bar graph to show your results.

Learning Standards: Using technology tools to enhance learning; understanding the operations and functions of technology systems; organizing data in charts, graphs and tables.

5 The President Talks

Last week, President Obama gave a speech to students across the nation, urging them to work hard and stay in school. But he warned that being successful isn't always easy. "Being successful is hard," he said. "You won't love every subject you study. You won't click with every teacher. ... And you

won't necessarily succeed at everything the first time you try." Yet the President said the reward of staying in school and doing the best you can is greater than the frustrations. With classmates, talk about the things that are most important for students to be successful. Then write a short letter to the editor of the eEdition, sharing your class's advice with parents and other students.

Learning Standards: Responding to a variety of oral, visual, written and electronic texts by making connections to students' personal lives and the lives of others; writing fluently for multiple purposes.

A Teaching Tool
For Tomorrow