

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 6-8

1 Search & Learn More

An eEdition offers a variety of features that let you find information quickly and efficiently. And once you find something that interests you, eEditions let you learn more with search features. With the toolbars or Index, find the editorial page in today's eEdition. Click on the editorial cartoon to enlarge it. Study it to see what it is about and what point the cartoonist is making. Then use the Search or Advanced Search feature of the eEdition to see what stories appeared in the eEdition about this subject. Write a paragraph describing the issues that inspired the editorial cartoon. Write a second paragraph describing how having the features of the eEdition assist readers in gathering information.

Learning Standards: Locating information from electronic resources; describing the impact of technology use on individuals at home, at school and in the workplace.

2 Major League

Baseball great Jackie Robinson was born on January 31, 1919. Robinson joined the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947, becoming the first African American baseball player in the Major Leagues in the modern era. On the 50th anniversary of his debut, Major League Baseball honored Robinson by retiring his number, 42. The Major Leagues also honor him on Jackie Robinson Day every April 15, the day Robinson first took the field with the Dodgers. Look through the eEdition, or use the Internet, to find someone you think should be honored for something he or she has achieved. Write an eEdition editorial explaining who the person is and why you picked that person.

Learning Standards: Exploring and reflecting on universal themes and substantive issues from oral, visual and written texts; identifying and explaining how individuals in history demonstrate good character and personal virtue.

3 Dictionary

The first volume of "A New English Dictionary on Historical Principles," later renamed the "Oxford English Dictionary," was published on February 1, 1884. The "Oxford English Dictionary" is the most comprehensive dictionary of the English language. For every word, it includes both its meaning and its history. Go through the eEdition and make a list of the five biggest, hardest words you can find. For each word, write down the sentence it appears in and its meaning. Then pair up with a classmate and use the words to test each other's vocabulary.

Learning Standard: Employing multiple strategies to recognize words while constructing meaning, including the use of context clues, word roots and affixes, and syntax.

4 Cousteau

Oceanographer Jacques-Yves Cousteau published a book called "The Silent World" on February 3, 1953. The book is a memoir of his underwater adventures. Cousteau spent years exploring the ocean. He helped develop the aqua-lung, which allowed a diver to stay underwater for hours, and hosted a TV series called "The Undersea World of Jacques Cousteau." Find an article that talks about humans negatively affecting the ocean or ocean life. In groups, research solutions to the problem you read about. Discuss what your group learned with the rest of the class.

Learning Standards: Explaining how humans modify the environment and describing some of the possible consequences of those modifications; describing the consequences of human/environment interactions in several different types of environments.

5 Pandora

The science-fiction epic "Avatar" has become the highest-grossing movie ever, earning more than \$1.86 billion in ticket sales around the world. "Avatar" takes place in a fictional world called Pandora. Director James Cameron spent years fine-tuning all the details of Pandora

and its inhabitants, the Na'vi. In groups, use the eEdition for ideas to come up with your own design for a science fiction or fictional land. Describe what it would look like and what kind of creatures would inhabit it. Would they look like people, or totally different? Think about what kind of air they would breathe, what they would eat and how they would live. Draw a picture to illustrate your ideas. Share what your group created with the class.

Learning Standards: Reading and writing fluently, speaking confidently, listening and interacting appropriately, viewing critically and representing creatively; engaging peers in constructive conversation about topics of interest or importance.

A Teaching Tool
for Tomorrow