

news {..BYTES..}

for eEditions

grades 9-12

1 Real Food

Internet food blogger Jennifer McGruther just wrapped up her 28-day Real Food Challenge. McGruther runs a blog called NourishedKitchen.com, which focuses on cooking and eating healthy foods. Recently, she challenged her readers to eat only “real foods,” rather than processed foods like flour, sugar, margarine and pasta. More than 900 people signed up for the challenge. The verdict? It’s really hard to eat real food because processed foods are so much a part of American diets. Follow Jennifer McGruther’s lead and write entries for a blog of your own, based on something in the news in the eEdition. Give your blog a theme. Then write at least three entries that include facts, opinions and advice.

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

2 Internet

Two high school seniors in the state of New Jersey were kicked off the basketball team last week, right before the playoffs, because of Facebook posts they put up about their coach. Students Tina Porter and Dhruva Rathod used Facebook to complain about a team practice session and about the coach, and used curse words. The school district superintendent said they were being disrespectful and inappropriate. Rathod said: “I think what I do outside school is my own business and it shouldn’t transgress into school and basketball.” Write an eEdition editorial responding to Rathod’s quote.

Learning Standards: Generating questions about important issues that affect students or society, or topics about which they are curious; narrowing the questions to a clear focus; creating a thesis or a hypothesis; composing coherent written essays.

3 Guns

Last week the U.S. Supreme Court said it might strike down bans on handguns in U.S. cities. If the court does that, it could lead to expanded nationwide rights to gun ownership. Using the eEdition and online sources, read about the arguments over gun ownership, and cases involving the Second Amendment of the Bill of Rights, which lists the “the right of the people to keep and bear arms.” As a class, divide into two teams, one in support of banning some guns and one against, and hold a debate. Take a vote at the end.

Learning Standards: Synthesizing and evaluating information to draw conclusions and implications based on investigation of an issue or problem; engaging peers in constructive conversation about matters of public concern and working toward making decisions.

4 Reporter

A massive earthquake struck the South American country of Chile. It was one of the strongest earthquakes ever recorded. Read about what’s going on in Chile in the eEdition and online. Then write a news article about one aspect of the situation. It can focus on the Chilean people, the government’s reaction, the rescue or clean-up efforts, the response from other countries or anything else.

Learning Standard: Writing fluently for multiple purposes to produce compositions, such as stories, poetry, personal narratives, editorials, research reports, persuasive essays, resumes and memos.

5 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 can 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.

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