



Use the different sections of this letter to begin conversations with your child about what he or she is learning.

Big Idea: What can we do to make a difference?

Ask your child how this week's reading selection helps him or her answer this question.

This week's reading selection: *Louis Braille's Gift to the Blind*

Summary: An accident when he was young caused Louis Braille to lose his sight. At a special school in Paris for people who are blind, Braille modified a code invented by Charles Barbier to help people who are blind learn to read and write. Braille's system used raised dots to represent letters, and it is still used today.

► **DISCUSS** with your child how helping oneself might also help others.

Vocabulary Encourage your child to use these words while discussing the reading selection.

institute	<i>noun</i>	a school or other organization that is set up for a particular purpose
certain	<i>adjective</i>	known but not named; some; particular
dormitory	<i>adjective</i>	of or relating to a building in which there are many bedrooms
code	<i>noun</i>	any set of signals, words, or symbols used to send messages
represented	<i>verb</i>	was a symbol of; stood for
technique	<i>noun</i>	a method or way of bringing about a desired result in a science, art, sport, or profession
vertical	<i>adjective</i>	straight up and down; upright
cell	<i>noun</i>	a small enclosed part or space
distinctly	<i>adverb</i>	in a clear manner
murmured	<i>verb</i>	spoke in a low, soft voice

Spelling Practice these words with your child.

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| 1. applauded | 8. grumbled | 15. proposing |
| 2. bargaining | 9. guessing | 16. replied |
| 3. boasted | 10. identifying | 17. stammering |
| 4. burying | 11. informed | 18. suspending |
| 5. concentrated | 12. lectured | 19. vanishing |
| 6. concluded | 13. marveled | 20. whirling |
| 7. doubling | 14. omitted | |

Challenge

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| 1. analyzing | 2. evacuated | 3. immigrating |
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Language Arts

Writing: Your child will work with a partner to brainstorm opinions related to a chosen topic. Then he or she will edit an opinion essay using proofreading marks.

Grammar: Your child will learn about verbs. Then he or she will write sentences to practice using verbs.

► **ASK** your child to use verbs to describe his or her day.