



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

**Big Idea:** What do you have in common with people around the world?

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

**This week's reading selection:** *Island Treasures: Growing Up in Cuba*

**Summary:** Living in Cuba, Abuelito Modesto had to choose between protecting his wealth during an economic crisis and staying by his wife's side when she was ill. He loses most of his money when he chooses to stay with his wife. After she passes away from her illness, he is sure that he made the right choice.

► **DISCUSS** with your child some of your family's ancestors and share stories about them with your child.

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

<b>formal</b>	<i>adjective</i>	very proper; official
<b>remote</b>	<i>adjective</i>	not near; distant
<b>formidable</b>	<i>adjective</i>	causing fear; intimidating
<b>prevalent</b>	<i>adjective</i>	common, widely acknowledged
<b>arrogant</b>	<i>adjective</i>	having or showing too much pride and confidence
<b>authoritarian</b>	<i>adjective</i>	controlling or bossy
<b>manufacturer</b>	<i>noun</i>	maker of things; company that produces a product
<b>nostalgia</b>	<i>noun</i>	happiness caused by good memories of the past
<b>steadfast</b>	<i>adjective</i>	dedicated and devoted to a person or cause over a long period of time

**Spelling** Practice these words with your child.

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|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. bookish       | 8. foolish       | 15. optimism    |
| 2. chronic       | 9. interject     | 16. organism    |
| 3. chronicle     | 10. intermediate | 17. stylish     |
| 4. chronological | 11. interruption | 18. symbolism   |
| 5. chronometer   | 12. intersperse  | 19. synchronize |
| 6. criticism     | 13. intertwine   | 20. ticklish    |
| 7. feverish      | 14. mannerism    |                 |

**Challenge**

- |               |                |               |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. amateurish | 2. anachronism | 3. metabolism |
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**Language Arts**

**Writing:** Your child will learn about the different elements of narrative text and how to plan, organize, and write a narrative text.

**Grammar:** Your child will learn about how to combine independent and dependent clauses together to form complex sentences.

► **ASK** your child to describe the different elements of narrative text (beginning, middle, climax, end).