



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: *The House Baba Built*

Summary: To keep his family safe during World War II, Ed Young’s father built a house in the safest part of Shanghai. Young recalls fond memories from his childhood in the family home. Although the country was being invaded by Japan, his family remained safe and together through the entire war.

► **DISCUSS** with your child some of the memories your family has made in your home.

Vocabulary Have your child make flashcards to practice reading and defining these words.

scholar	<i>noun</i>	a person with advanced learning experiences
embassies	<i>noun</i>	the homes or offices of ambassadors to foreign countries
engineer	<i>noun</i>	a person who designs or builds structures or machines
abroad	<i>adverb</i>	outside of one’s home country
captives	<i>noun</i>	people held against their will
stoic	<i>adjective</i>	unwilling to display emotions; expressionless
shoots	<i>noun</i>	stems and leaves of young plants
reprimanded	<i>verb</i>	expressed disapproval or punished harshly
betrayal	<i>noun</i>	an unfaithful act that often violates expectations
inseparable	<i>adjective</i>	unable to be taken apart
luscious	<i>adjective</i>	rich in detail; attractive or fancy
curfew	<i>noun</i>	a set time by which people are expected to be home
shrill	<i>adjective</i>	characterized by a high-pitched shrieking sound
unison	<i>noun</i>	existing at the same time; together
trance	<i>noun</i>	a condition during which a person is conscious but is seemingly unaware of what is going on
loll	<i>verb</i>	stood, sat, or laid in a casual, relaxed way

Spelling Practice these words with your child.

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. antibiotic | 8. deduct | 15. supervise |
| 2. antibodies | 9. dejected | 16. transaction |
| 3. antiseptic | 10. deport | 17. transatlantic |
| 4. antisocial | 11. superficial | 18. transformation |
| 5. antivirus | 12. superhuman | 19. translate |
| 6. decay | 13. supersede | 20. transport |
| 7. decline | 14. superstar | |

Challenge

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. deactivate | 2. superintendent | 3. translucent |
|---------------|-------------------|----------------|

Language Arts

Writing: Your child will choose a topic for a narrative text. Then he or she will draft a personal narrative.

Grammar: Your child will learn about and identify run-on sentences and sentence fragments. Then he or she will correct problem sentences.

► **ASK** your child to use a run-on sentence or a sentence fragment to describe his or her favorite activity. Then have him or her correct the problem sentence.