



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: *Seeds of Change*

Summary: Wangari, a girl from Kenya, goes to school in America and studies to become a biologist. She returns to Kenya to teach but learns big companies have cut down many trees, which is hurting the animals and local people. Wangari works with other women to plant trees in Kenya and spread her message around the world.

► **DISCUSS** with your child how a small idea can grow into making a big difference.

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

fees	<i>noun</i>	money requested or paid for some service or right
nourishment	<i>noun</i>	something needed for life and growth
rich	<i>adjective</i>	able to produce much; fertile
customs	<i>noun</i>	ways of acting that have become accepted by many people
molecules	<i>noun</i>	the smallest particles into which a substance can be divided without changing chemically
lens	<i>noun</i>	a piece of glass or other clear material curved to make light rays move apart or come together
abundant	<i>adjective</i>	more than enough; plentiful
landscape	<i>noun</i>	the stretch of land that can be seen from a place
corrupt	<i>adjective</i>	able to be bribed; crooked; dishonest
sturdy	<i>adjective</i>	strong or hardy

Spelling Practice these words with your child.

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|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. breezy | 8. grainy | 15. stormy |
| 2. dusty | 9. gratefully | 16. successful |
| 3. entirely | 10. healthful | 17. swiftly |
| 4. exactly | 11. moody | 18. thoughtless |
| 5. firmly | 12. peaceful | 19. weightless |
| 6. forceful | 13. powerless | 20. worthless |
| 7. graceful | 14. spotless | |

Challenge

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|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. flawless | 2. historically | 3. purposeful |
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Language Arts

Writing: Your child will brainstorm opinions related to a chosen topic. Then he or she will plan an opinion essay by identifying the topic sentence, reasons that support the opinion, and the ending.

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

► **ASK** your child to use adverbs to describe what he or she likes to do on the weekend.