



You will be receiving one of these letters every week throughout your child's year of fourth grade. Each letter is a glimpse into what he or she has to focus on during the week in reading and language arts. Use the different sections of this letter to stimulate 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: *Ava and Pip*

Summary: Ava and Bea, a popular girl at school, start helping Ava's sister, Pip, be less shy. Bea tells Pip all she has to do the first week is smile at a different person every day. Pip receives positive feedback when she smiles, so she agrees to the next step—saying something positive about herself whenever she sees her reflection in a mirror.

► **DISCUSS** with your child how making a difference can begin at home.

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

gullible	<i>adjective</i>	believing or trusting in almost anything
transplant	<i>noun</i>	an event in which an item or person is taken from one place and put into another
pep	<i>noun</i>	a lively, vital quality; activity; spirit
reassured	<i>verb</i>	restored confidence or courage in
suspiciously	<i>adverb</i>	having or showing a feeling that something is wrong
flattered	<i>verb</i>	praised too much or insincerely
reinforcement	<i>noun</i>	additional support; encouragement
awkwardness	<i>noun</i>	a difficult or embarrassing moment; clumsiness
conquer	<i>verb</i>	to overcome; to defeat
coordinated	<i>adjective</i>	able to do well with physical work or sport

Spelling Practice these words with your child.

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| 1. discomfort | 8. nonremovable | 15. retrace |
| 2. disconnect | 9. nonspecific | 16. uncooked |
| 3. dishonest | 10. nonstick | 17. uneventful |
| 4. disobey | 11. reappear | 18. unidentified |
| 5. disqualify | 12. rearrange | 19. unimpressed |
| 6. nondairy | 13. rediscover | 20. untangle |
| 7. nonliving | 14. refreeze | |

Challenge

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| 1. disarray | 2. nonverbal | 3. unconscious |
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Language Arts

Writing: Your child will learn about the writing process. He or she will also discuss the differences between facts and opinions.

Grammar: Your child will learn about, identify, and use common nouns, proper nouns, concrete nouns, and abstract nouns.

► **ASK** your child to write four sentences: one with a common noun, one with a proper noun, one with a concrete noun, and one with an abstract noun.