



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 Pot That Juan Built*

Summary: More than seven hundred years ago, the inhabitants of a prehistoric settlement in northern Mexico made pottery using clay from the nearby hills. When a young man rediscovers their methods in the 21st century, he sparks an art movement that helps turn his small village into a prospering community.

► **DISCUSS** with your child some of the ways your community celebrates art and culture.

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

windswept	<i>adjective</i>	exposed to and swept by the wind
impoverished	<i>adjective</i>	characterized by poverty
fashioned	<i>verb</i>	made or gave shape to
potsherds	<i>noun</i>	broken pieces of ceramic often found at archaeological sites
calico	<i>adjective</i>	having spots or blotches of different color
cherishes	<i>verb</i>	loves or cares for
solitude	<i>noun</i>	a state of being by oneself
battled	<i>verb</i>	fought
supplemented	<i>verb</i>	added to
patrons	<i>noun</i>	people, especially those who are rich or powerful, who support another person
prize	<i>verb</i>	to think something is important or valuable
reflect	<i>verb</i>	to think seriously about something that has occurred

Spelling Practice these words with your child.

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|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. aggressive | 8. millimeter | 15. upgrade |
| 2. barometer | 9. perimeter | 16. vacancy |
| 3. degrade | 10. progression | 17. vacant |
| 4. diameter | 11. regress | 18. vaccinate |
| 5. evacuee | 12. retrograde | 19. vacuous |
| 6. geometry | 13. symmetry | 20. vacuum |
| 7. graduation | 14. thermometer | |

Challenge

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| 1. biodegradable | 2. odometer | 3. vacillate |
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Language Arts

Writing: Your child will revise, edit, and publish his or her narrative text. Then your child will have the opportunity to present his or her writing to the class.

Grammar: Your child will learn about participial phrases and generate sentences with participial phrases to practice the concept.

► **HAVE** your child practice presenting his or her narrative writing to you. Remind him or her to speak clearly and to maintain eye contact.