



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

Big Idea: Why is art an important part of our lives?

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

This week’s reading selection: *Art Works!*

Summary: An abandoned school building in the neighborhood has become an eyesore. A brother and sister have the great idea to transform the building into a new workshop for artists. They’re excited, but convincing the rest of the town is more work than they could have imagined.

► **DISCUSS** a time when your child has worked together with somebody to do something important.

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

strummed	<i>verb</i>	played in an easy, relaxed, or unskilled way
amplifier	<i>noun</i>	an electronic device that increases the power and sound of a signal, often used to make stringed instruments louder
dilapidated	<i>adjective</i>	fallen into ruin or decay; broken down
town council	<i>noun</i>	a group of elected officials who make decisions about a town
slight	<i>adjective</i>	not much or not important; small
detour	<i>noun</i>	an alternate route to a destination, sometimes taken to avoid something
ceramics	<i>noun</i>	art made of baked clay
eyesore	<i>noun</i>	something that is displeasing from one’s point of view
mural	<i>noun</i>	an illustration painted on a wall or ceiling
funds	<i>noun</i>	sums of money set aside for a purpose
culinary	<i>adjective</i>	relating to the art of cooking
essential	<i>adjective</i>	very important and necessary
diligently	<i>adverb</i>	working in a hard and steady way
unanimously	<i>adverb</i>	in a way that shows total agreement
gratitude	<i>noun</i>	a feeling of gratefulness

Spelling Practice these words with your child.

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|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. abundance | 8. encyclopedia | 15. phonetic |
| 2. autograph | 9. forgiveness | 16. preference |
| 3. chronological | 10. geography | 17. prehistoric |
| 4. concur | 11. improvement | 18. reflection |
| 5. conductor | 12. midnight | 19. specialize |
| 6. dislocate | 13. midsentence | 20. technology |
| 7. emphasize | 14. nonexistent | |

Challenge

1. correspondence 2. echolocation 3. predetermine

Language Arts

Writing: Your child will develop the setting, characters, and plot for historical fiction writing.

Grammar: Your child will review nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, and prepositional phrases.

► **HAVE** your child look through books or magazines and identify five sentences. Then have him or her identify the nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and prepositions in the sentences.