



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

## Big Idea: Why do we need a government?

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

## This week's reading selection: *So You Want to Be President?*

**Summary:** This humorous biography offers intriguing bits of trivia about U.S. presidents throughout history. It also gives readers a sense of how similar—and how very unique—these famous figures are.

**Essential Questions:** What kind of person could become the president? What do you think all presidents should have in common?

► **DISCUSS** with your child whether he or she would want to be the president and why.

## Vocabulary

**Focus:** The words below appear in this week's reading selection.

<b>adversaries</b>	<i>noun</i>	people who are hostile toward or competing with each other
<b>ambassadors</b>	<i>noun</i>	diplomats sent as official representatives to a foreign country
<b>anniversary</b>	<i>noun</i>	the yearly return of an important date
<b>execute</b>	<i>verb</i>	carry out or fulfill
<b>interview</b>	<i>noun</i>	a meeting between a reporter and a person giving information
<b>pesky</b>	<i>adjective</i>	troublesome or annoying
<b>philosophy</b>	<i>noun</i>	the study of the basic nature and purpose of humanity
<b>preferred</b>	<i>verb</i>	liked better, or chose above others
<b>priority</b>	<i>noun</i>	coming before something else, as in order of importance
<b>slogan</b>	<i>noun</i>	a phrase, statement, or motto used by a group
<b>spectators</b>	<i>noun</i>	people who watch but do not take part
<b>vain</b>	<i>adjective</i>	overly proud of one's appearance or abilities

► **HELP** your child make flashcards to practice reading and defining these words.

## Spelling

**Focus:** Your child will spell words he or she has practiced throughout the unit.

- |              |               |                |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. misplace  | 6. distrust   | 11. direction  |
| 2. unclear   | 7. uniform    | 12. unlucky    |
| 3. incorrect | 8. triangle   | 13. preview    |
| 4. expand    | 9. submarine  | 14. blameless  |
| 5. enable    | 10. expansive | 15. assistance |

## Challenge

- |               |              |                |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1. impossible | 2. interfere | 3. distrustful |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|

► **HAVE** your child practice spelling these words.

## Language Arts

**Writing:** Your child will plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish a response to literature that describes how a character changes throughout a story.

**Grammar:** Your child will review the topics discussed throughout the unit, including subject/verb and pronoun/antecedent agreement, verb tenses, irregular verbs, prepositions, and complex sentences.

► **ASK** your child to explain what he or she likes or dislikes about a recently-read story. Ask for more details from the text if the explanation is too vague.