



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

Big Idea: How can we learn from our past?

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

This week’s reading selection: *The Harlem Renaissance*

Summary: This informational article describes the surge in jazz music composition, writing, theater, dance, and other arts that was observed among African Americans in 1920s Harlem.

Essential Questions: Why would people want to feel like they are part of a community? Is there anything about your community that makes you feel proud?

► **DISCUSS** with your child why people are inspired to sing, dance, write, and create art.

Vocabulary

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

adventure	<i>noun</i>	a thrilling or unusual experience or activity
cast	<i>noun</i>	the actors in a play or movie
dialect	<i>noun</i>	language that is spoken in a particular area
discrimination	<i>noun</i>	unfair difference in treatment
fame	<i>noun</i>	a widespread reputation, especially for great achievement
international	<i>adjective</i>	relating to two or more countries
launch	<i>verb</i>	to start something with enthusiasm
lavish	<i>adjective</i>	given in great amounts, or more than necessary
pride	<i>noun</i>	a sense of one’s personal worth or dignity
prosperous	<i>adjective</i>	having success, wealth, or good fortune
symbolized	<i>verb</i>	served as a symbol for, or represented by something else
timeless	<i>adjective</i>	unaffected by the passage of time

► **ADD** the vocabulary words to your conversations at home.

Spelling

Focus: Your child will spell words with the /ō/ and /ow/ sounds, comparatives, and superlatives.

- | | | |
|-------------|--------------|------------|
| 1. shower | 6. earlier | 11. clown |
| 2. blown | 7. noun | 12. slower |
| 3. couch | 8. mouse | 13. glow |
| 4. faster | 9. older | 14. know |
| 5. thinnest | 10. lightest | 15. crowd |

Challenge

- | | | |
|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. happier | 2. fountain | 3. growling |
|------------|-------------|-------------|

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

Language Arts

Writing: Your child will edit and publish the realistic fiction story begun last week. He or she will then work with a partner to plan and draft a tall tale.

Grammar: Your child will also be learning about coordinating conjunctions (*and, but, or*) and subordinating conjunctions (*although, until, while*).

► **ASK** your child to describe elements of a tall tale, such as unlikely or impossible events, exaggeration, characters with superhuman abilities, and a problem to solve.