



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: *More Than Meets the Eye*

Summary: Aya is dreading an upcoming assignment for her least favorite class: English. But when she discovers the exciting medium of the graphic novel, Aya’s eyes are opened to a new way of reading. Now she’s more enthusiastic than ever about writing her report.

► **DISCUSS** with your child different graphic novels he or she has read. What did your child like about them?

Vocabulary Read aloud a definition and ask your child to identify the correct vocabulary word.

mixed media	<i>noun</i>	art that uses different types of media
canvas	<i>noun</i>	a strong heavy cloth used to make tents, sails, coats, and boat covers; used as a surface for painting
motivations	<i>noun</i>	reasons that a person does something
string	<i>verb</i>	to connect together in a series
exhibit	<i>noun</i>	something shown
gallery	<i>noun</i>	a room or building where works of art are displayed or sold
graphic	<i>adjective</i>	having to do with illustrations or design
elite	<i>adjective</i>	markedly better than average
panel	<i>noun</i>	a section of something that is different in some way from what is around it because it is raised, sunken, or bordered
scoffed	<i>verb</i>	made fun of
comfort zone	<i>noun</i>	a place or feeling of being confident and at ease
podium	<i>noun</i>	a platform or raised area to speak from
sheaves	<i>noun</i>	pieces of paper
easels	<i>noun</i>	tall stands or racks used to hold paintings
extraordinaire	<i>adjective</i>	very unusual; remarkable
contaminated	<i>verb</i>	made dirty; polluted

Spelling Practice these words with your child.

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| 1. abrupt | 8. criticism | 15. studios |
| 2. aggressive | 9. decline | 16. stylish |
| 3. antibodies | 10. graduation | 17. supervise |
| 4. auditorium | 11. intermediate | 18. synonym |
| 5. biodiversity | 12. interruption | 19. transaction |
| 6. chronological | 13. miscellaneous | 20. vaccinate |
| 7. continuous | 14. perimeter | |

Challenge

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| 1. amateurish | 2. pseudonym | 3. superintendent |
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Language Arts

Writing: Your child will choose a topic for a biography. Then he or she will research the topic and begin drafting.

Grammar: Your child will review complex sentences, subject/verb agreement, irregular nouns and verbs, run-on sentences, and sentence fragments.

► **DISCUSS** with your child different resources, such as books, encyclopedias, magazines, websites, and interviews that he or she could use to collect information for the writing assignment.