

In this unit, students will expand their background knowledge of the time of the Reformation.

What's the story?

Students will gain a better understanding of the **religious and political upheaval** that shifted the power in Europe from the Church to the state.

What will my student learn?

Students will learn about great **scientific advances** that were made during this period. They will read about how the **invention** of an efficient **printing press** helped fuel the **Reformation movement**.

Students will have many opportunities to **write** in this unit. They will **craft a friendly letter** as well as plan and create a **slide presentation** using a similar writing process to an informative essay.

Conversation starters

Ask your student questions about the unit to promote discussion and continued learning:

1. Why was the Church such an important part of people's lives in the Middle Ages?
2. Why did only privileged families have books in their homes?
Follow up: How were books made in the Middle Ages? Why were most books printed in Latin?
3. Why was the invention of the printing press so important?
Follow up: What do Gutenberg's printing press and the Internet have in common?
4. What is the relationship between religious reform and political reform in Europe during the Reformation?
5. You learned about the word *self-disciplined*. What does it mean?
Follow up: Can you use it in a sentence? I will use it in a sentence too! What is something you wish you were more self-disciplined with? What part of speech is that word?
6. What did Galileo's invention of the telescope do?
Follow up: What did he discover? Who did his findings contradict?