Literacy Spotlights

Spotlight Topic	Content-area Literacy
Background Information	Reading and writing aren't just for English class! Think about the kinds of reading and writing different people do at different jobs. Lawyers do a different kind of writing and reading than accountants who do a different kind of reading and writing from nurses who do different kinds of reading and writing than teachers. Content-area, or disciplinary, literacy focuses on the kinds of reading and writing present in content areas (so math, science, social studies, etc.). Every area has it's own unique texts that come with their own unique set of demands for understanding and/or writing them. Students need to learn how to change their thinking when they read or write different kinds of texts so that they're able to read in order to learn new information.
Standard	**Standard 13:** Read independently and comprehend a variety of texts for the purposes of reading for enjoyment, acquiring new learning, and building stamina; reflect and respond to increasingly complex text over time.
Activity	Reading with your student shouldn't be limited to just books. Take time to look at real-world texts like newspapers, bills, forms, and any paperwork from work you bring home to work on. Point out things you do to help you make sense of the texts. Help them understand that reading takes on many forms and is a necessary skill for their lives beyond school, no matter what career they choose.