Literacy Spotlights

Spotlight Topic	Reading is More Than Just Books
Background Information	When you think of reading, you probably think of books. But there are so many other types of texts students can read. Newspapers, magazines, poetry, short stories, maps, etc. All this counts as reading. But it's not just limited to print. Movies, tv shows, photographs, and paintings are all "read" too in their own ways.
Standard	**Standard 12:** Analyze and critique how the author uses structures in print and multimedia texts to shape meaning and impact the reader.
Activity	Here are some ideas about ways to bring authentic literacy into your home beyond just reading books together. ❖ Let your student help research and plan family vacations. ❖ Visit the Columbia Museum of Art (it's free the second Sunday of the month). Ask your student questions like what details they notice in a piece of artwork and what message the artist wants readers to take away from the piece. ❖ Have a family movie night. After the movie's over, talk about bigger themes or issues the movie addresses. Talk about the way you felt watching the movie (were you scared/nervous, excited, sad?). Try and name things the filmmaker did to make you feel that way (like close-up shots, lighting, music, etc.)