Amplify. TEXAS
ELEMENTARY LITERACY PROGRAM

Welcome!

Grade 1, Domain 9
A New Nation: American Independence

In this unit, students will begin to understand and recall the story behind the birth of the United States.

What's the story?

Students will be introduced to important **historical figures and events** instrumental in the thirteen colonies gaining their **independence from Britain** to become the **United States of America**.

What will my student learn?

Students will learn about the **Boston Tea Party**, the **Declaration of Independence**, and the founding of a **new nation**. They will also explore important historical figures, such as **Betsy Ross**, **George Washington**, **Benjamin Franklin**, and **Thomas Jefferson**. They will study the chronology of events, the roles these figures played, and how they all fit together.

Students will explore the genre of **informational writing** by learning to **identify** important **facts and information** before, during, and after the daily Read-Alouds. They will **plan and write** their own informational paragraphs about the founding of the United States. They will also work as a class, in small groups, and independently to **write captions** for an ongoing **Picture Gallery**.

Conversation starters

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

1. What was the Boston Tea Party?
   Follow up: What are taxes? What do they pay for? Did the Boston Tea Party solve the problem of tea being taxed? How do you know?
2. What did the Declaration of Independence do?
   Follow up: Who was chosen to write it? Why do you think he was chosen? How do you think the colonists felt when they heard the Declaration of Independence?
3. What is Betsy Ross known for?
   Follow up: Why were there thirteen stripes and thirteen stars on the flag she made? If you could design a flag for our family, what would you include? Why?
4. What are some things that George Washington did for his country?
   Follow up: If you had a chance to meet George Washington, what would you tell him? What questions would you ask him?