MODULE 2
SECOND GRADE

What's Happening in English Language Arts Class?

Your child's class will use Arts and Letters as our English Language Arts curriculum. By reading and responding to excellent fiction and nonfiction, your student will learn about key history, science, and literature topics.

THE AMERICAN WEST

In this second module, **The American West**, we will study The American West. Students explore the people, animals, and plants of the West. They answer the module's Essential Question: How has life in the American West changed over time?

OUR CLASS WILL
READ THESE BOOKS:

Literary

• *Powwow Day by* Traci Sorell and Madelyn Goodnight

Informational

• *Where the Buffalo Roam: Bison in America by* Kate Waters

Literary Nonfiction

• *The Buffalo Are Back by* Jean Craighead George and Wendell Minor
Buffalo Bird Girl: A Hidatsa Story by S.D. Nelson

OUR CLASS WILL
LOOK AT THESE PAINTINGS:

- Among the Sierra Nevada, California, Albert Bierstadt
- Buffalo Bull, Grazing on the Prarie, George Catlin
- Buffalo Hunter, Julian Martinez

OUR CLASS WILL ASK THESE QUESTIONS:

- How has life in the American West changed over time?
- What does a deeper look at the treatment of bison over time reveal?
- What does a deeper look at the relationships between people, plants, and animals reveal?

STUDENT WRITING:

Each module focuses on one writing type. In The American West, students plan, organize, and write informative paragraphs about how the West has changed over time.

You can support your child's writing by encouraging them to write at home. Invite your student to start a list of new information learned from the books they read.

VOCABULARY

The more vocabulary students know, the more successfully they can read, write, and speak. In this module, your child will study and use these words:

bison
challenge
community
government
homestead
interdependent
nation
opportunity
prairie
preserve
settler
tradition

How can I help my child outside of school?

- **Read in Your Home Language:** If you speak another language, read and speak with your child in that language to build strong literacy skills.
- **Research:** Research a Native American nation from your region of the country or one that is of interest to your student.
- **Family Discussions:** Discuss traditions in your family or community.