Tips for Families

Level 1 Module 1 | *A World of Books*

We are excited about the skills and knowledge that your student will build in *Arts & Letters*™ level 1 module 1. Read on to learn more—and for ideas about how you can support learning outside of school.

What topic is my student studying?

Arts & Letters students build knowledge of important topics in history, science, and literature. They build their vocabulary and background knowledge so that they are ready to learn more. In level 1 module 1, *A World of Books*, students explore the power of books and libraries. They answer the module's Essential Question: Why are books important?

Support your student by asking questions like these about the topic:

- When I say the word *library*, what do you think of?
- Do you have a favorite book? Why is it your favorite?

What is my student reading?

Arts & Letters students read books, poems, and articles. They study art. They watch knowledge-building videos. Together, these resources build students' knowledge and reading skills. In level 1 module 1, students listen to and learn from these books:

- *The White Cat and the Monk: A Retelling of the Poem "Pangur Bán,"* Jo Ellen Bogart and Sydney Smith
- *That Book Woman*, Heather Henson and David Small
- *Tomás and the Library Lady*, Pat Mora and Raul Colón
- *Ready to Fly: How Sylvia Townsend Became the Bookmobile Ballerina*, Lea Lyon, A. LaFaye, and Jessica Gibson
- *The Book Rescuer: How a Mensch from Massachusetts Saved Yiddish Literature for Generations to Come*, Sue Macy and Stacy Innerst

Support your student by talking about books and reading together at home.

What is my student writing?

In *Arts & Letters*, students write about what they are learning, and they build their skills by writing stories, opinion paragraphs, and informative paragraphs. Each module focuses on one type of writing. In *A World of Books*, students plan, organize, and write stories about characters who visit libraries and learn something new from books.

Support your student's writing by encouraging them to write at home. Set up a display for your student's work. Invite your student to say aloud stories, lists, poems, or letters that you can write and reread together.

What vocabulary is my student learning?

The more vocabulary students know, the more successfully they can read, write, and speak.

In this module, your student will study and use these words:

- access
- bookmobile
- borrow
- collect
- curious
- imaginary
- knowledge
- lesson
- librarian
- library
- manuscript
- monk
- packhorse librarian
- precious
- pursuit
- scholar
- treasure

Support learning outside of school by using these words with your student. Talk about what the words mean. Challenge each other to use the words in conversation.

What else can we do to continue learning outside of school?

Conversation helps students develop their language skills. Engage in back-and-forth discussions about topics of interest to you and your student.

Visit the local library together. Explore on your own or check your library's website for programs for students and families.

Plan a reading activity. Use a book to learn a new skill or start a book club with other students and their families or caregivers.