Tips for Families

Level 2 Module 1 | *A Season of Change*

We are excited about the skills and knowledge that your student will build in *Arts & Letters*™ level 2 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 2 module 1, *A Season of Change*, students explore the seasons. They answer the module's Essential Question: How does seasonal change affect nature and people?

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

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

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 2 module 1, students listen to and learn from these books:

- *Sky Tree: Seeing Science Through Art*, Thomas Locker
- *Why Do Leaves Change Color?*, Betsy Maestro and Loretta Krupinski
- *The Little Yellow Leaf*, Carin Berger
- *The Story of Snow: The Science of Winter's Wonder*, Mark Cassino, Jon Nelson, and Nora Aoyagi
- *Poetree*, Shauna LaVoy Reynolds and Shahrzad Maydani

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. Modules typically focus on one writing type. In *A Season of Change*, students plan, organize, and write stories about characters who experience seasonal change.

Support your student's writing by encouraging them to write at home. Encourage your student to observe seasonal change and draw and write to describe what they see.

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:

- affect
- autumn
- blossom
- branch
- change
- conditions
- cycle
- nature
- pigment
- reluctant
- respond
- season
- snow crystal
- spring
- temperature
- weather
- winter

Support learning outside of school by using these words with your student. Discuss the meanings of new, unfamiliar words.

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

If you speak a language other than English, speak and read with your student in your home language. This practice can help them develop strong literacy skills.

Select a tree in your neighborhood to observe throughout the year with your student. Invite them to create a work of art (e.g., drawing, painting, sculpture) of the tree during each season.

Keep monthly calendars to track temperatures and weather conditions. Encourage your student to share their observations and questions at the end of each week and month. Discuss patterns related to seasonal change.

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