

Tips for Families

Level 3 Module 3 | *A New Home*

We are excited about the skills and knowledge that your student will build in *Arts & Letters*™ level 3 module 3. 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 3 module 3, *A New Home*, students explore stories of some of those who have come to the United States from other countries and how stories connect people across cultures and generations. They answer the module's Essential Question: How do stories help us understand immigrants' experiences?

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

- What is or would be challenging about moving to a new country?
- What is or might be exciting about moving to a new country?

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 literacy, including their understanding of different text genres. In level 3 module 3, students read and learn from these books:

- *Islandborn*, Junot Díaz and Leo Espinosa
- *The Keeping Quilt*, Patricia Polacco
- *The Blessing Cup*, Patricia Polacco
- *Watercress*, Andrea Wang and Jason Chin

Support your student by talking about books and reading together at home. Ask your student questions about what they are reading in school.

What is my student writing?

In *Arts & Letters*, students write about what they are learning, and they build their skills by writing narratives, opinion essays, and informative essays. Each module focuses on one type of writing. In *A New Home*, students plan, organize, and write stories involving characters who move to a new place.

Support your student's writing by ensuring they have tools, technology, and opportunities to write. Provide your student with a blank book to use as a daily journal. Invite them to describe events from their day or to record their thoughts and observations.



What vocabulary is my student learning?

Learning more words enables students to read, write, and speak at higher levels and about different topics.

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

- adjust
- generation
- hardship
- immigrant
- immigrate
- keepsake
- liberty
- memory
- origin
- tradition

Engage your student in talking about and using these words and in exploring words more broadly. Show curiosity about words, letting your student know when you encounter an unfamiliar word and how you determine its meaning.

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

If you speak a language other than English, engage your student in speaking, reading, and writing in your home language. Engage in some of the literacy activities above in that language.

Research with your student the culture of a country that interests them. Discuss how life in that country is similar to or different from life in the United States.

Invite your student to share a tradition or keepsake that they would like to pass to a future generation. Then tell your student about a tradition or keepsake that you want to pass to them.

Gift of the Zelanka Family, in honor of Bernard and Rhoda Zelanka, 2016, Courtesy The Metropolitan Museum of Art

