

Family-School Connection

Highlights of the Unit:

What makes a hero?

Dear Family,

What makes a hero? What qualities do we see in heroes? In this unit, students address these questions and others by reading historical fiction. They read biographical texts and poetry to learn about heroes. After learning from their reading, they write their own historical fiction story.

READING

Students read historical fiction to understand its elements. They also learn about the **pre-**, **dis-**, **in-**, **im-**, **non-** prefixes, **-ful**, **-y**, **-ness** suffixes, **oo**, **ew**, **ue**, **ui**, **eu** vowel teams, abbreviations, and irregular plurals.

This unit's learning and work will help your child with the following **skills**:

- ★ Analyzing plot, setting, and characters
- ★ Analyzing text structure
- ★ Inferring theme
- ★ Explaining poetic elements

Ways to Help Your Child: When you talk about this unit's activities, the following topics and questions may help start the conversation.

- ★ Which hero did you like reading about the most? Why?
- ★ What are some elements of poetry that you learned?

WRITING

In this unit, students consider how to develop historical fiction. They learn about subject-verb agreement, simple verb tenses, irregular verbs, and pronouns.

This unit's learning and work will help your child with the following **skills**:

- ★ Developing plot, setting, and characters
- ★ Composing dialogue
- ★ Developing a problem and a resolution
- ★ Describing events with details
- ★ Developing a sequence of events

Ways to Help Your Child: The following topics and questions may help start a conversation.

- ★ What is the plot of your historical fiction story?
- ★ Who is your favorite character in your writing? Why?

PROJECT-BASED INQUIRY

In this unit's Project-Based Inquiry, students research how ordinary people become heroes. Students compose an opinion speech about why it is important to take advantage of opportunities to be heroic.

Thank you for your continuing support!