

Make a Difference

HELLO, FAMILY!

Over the next three weeks, our class will build their knowledge about people who make their communities better and stronger, with a focus on the narrative nonfiction genre. We will read texts about individuals and groups that make a difference in their local or global communities. Children will also write an expository essay that explains how one person can have an impact and make a meaningful difference in a community.

BRING IT HOME! Learning fun for the whole family!

Discuss the Topic

Set aside time daily for your child to share with you what he or she is learning. Use these ideas to help build your child's knowledge about the topic:

- Talk about the ideas your child has added to the Knowledge Map each week.
- Ask about the texts your child is reading, and what he or she has learned from them.
- Share with your child your own questions about the topic, and work together to find the answers.

Explore the Genre

The genre focus in this module is narrative nonfiction. Discuss with your child the characteristics of this genre.

Ask your child to read to you each day and make time to read together.

Look for texts that:

- Spark your child's curiosity.
- Tie to the module topic.
- Tell the story of a real person who has made a difference in his or her community.
- Describe a clear sequence of events that explain the person's contribution.

Build Vocabulary

Use these ideas to help your child build a rich vocabulary.

The Big Idea Reinforce the topic words *outreach*, *fellowship*, *communal*, and *resident* in conversations with your child. Use prompts like these: Name the places where you are a **resident**. Describe a **communal** event.

What Does It Mean? Have your child keep a growing list of the Critical Vocabulary words. Quiz each other on their meanings.

Word Hunt Look for compound words and words with the suffixes *-ion*, *-ness*, and *-able* in books, magazines, online texts, and environmental print.