

# Home Letter

**The New Friend**  
Home Letter

## Dear Family,

This week we will explore the question “What can you learn from someone who is from another country?” We’ll learn what happens when a new neighbor moves in by reading the realistic fiction story **The New Friend**. Then children will look at some of America’s momuments and symbols in the informational text **Symbols of Our Country**.

### This week’s...

**Words to Know:** buy, city, family, myself, party, please, school, seven

**Phonics Skills:** Vowel combinations *ou, ow, oi, oy, au, aw*

**Vocabulary Strategy:** Synonyms—introduction to a thesaurus

**Comprehension Skill:** Understanding characters—tell more about characters

**Comprehension Strategy:** Summarize—stop to tell important events as you read

**Writing Focus:** Narrative writing—story

## Activities to Do Together

### Vocabulary

Play a guessing game together. Say some clues about one of this week’s **Words to Know** and ask your child to guess the answer. For example, “We go to the store to do this.” (buy)

### Change Your Life

Talk about a time when you had a big change in your life, such as moving to a new home or changing jobs. Who helped make the change easier? Together, discuss the people you would rely on if you had to make a big change.

### Come On In

Ask your child to imagine that a new family moved in next door. Have your child write a paragraph to describe how he or she would help the new neighbors feel welcome.



Go to the *eBook* to read and listen to this week’s selection.