

Unexpected, Unexplained

HELLO, FAMILY!

Over the next three weeks, our class will build their knowledge about mysterious events, with a focus on the mystery genre. We will read texts and view videos about why people are drawn to mysteries and driven to solve them. Children will also write an opinion essay about which mysteries in the module are the most believable and which seem made up for entertainment.

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 mystery. 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
- describe interesting characters and events
- present a conflict and show how it is resolved

Build Vocabulary

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

The Big Idea Reinforce the topic words *suspense*, *falsify*, *factor*, and *effect* in everyday conversations with your child. Use prompts like these: What **factors** can change your mood? Is **suspense** exciting? Why?

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 words with the roots *fac*, *fec*, *fy* and the suffixes *-y*, *-ion*, *-ic*, *-less*, *-ous/-ious*, *-al*, *-ant*, *-ment* in books, magazines, online texts, and environmental print.