WIT & WISDOM® TIPS FOR FAMILIES

WHAT IS MY GRADE 5 STUDENT LEARNING IN MODULE 2?

Wit & Wisdom® is our English curriculum. It builds knowledge of key topics in history, science, and literature through the study of excellent texts. By reading and responding to stories and nonfiction texts, we will build knowledge of the following topics:

Module 1: *Cultures in Conflict*

Module 2: *Word Play*

Module 3: *A War Between Us*

Module 4: *Breaking Barriers*

In Module 2, we will study the way we use words to define and organize our world. We will read playful stories to investigate wordplay and answer the question: How and why do writers play with words?

OUR CLASS WILL READ THIS TEXT

Novel

- *The Phantom Tollbooth*, Norton Juster

OUR CLASS WILL EXAMINE THESE PAINTINGS

- *The Persistence of Memory*, Salvador Dalí
- *Time Transfixed*, René Magritte

OUR CLASS WILL WATCH THIS VIDEO

- "Who's on First?" Bud Abbott and Lou Costello

OUR CLASS WILL ASK THESE QUESTIONS

- How can wordplay create confusion and humor?
- How can writers use wordplay to develop a story's settings and characters?
- How can writers use wordplay to develop a story's plot?
- How is *The Phantom Tollbooth* a story of transformation?

QUESTIONS TO ASK AT HOME

As your Grade 5 student reads, ask:

- What's happening?
- What does a closer look at words and illustrations reveal about this text's deeper meaning?

BOOKS TO READ AT HOME

- *The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus*, Jen Bryant and Melissa Sweet
- *A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams*, Jen Bryant and Melissa Sweet
- *Noah Webster: Weaver of Words*, Pegi Deitz Shea
- *The Dreamer*, Pam Muñoz Ryan and Peter Sís
- *The BFG*, Roald Dahl
- *Rain Reign*, Ann M. Martin
- *Lemonade and Other Poems Squeezed from a Single Word*, Bob Raczka
- *C B D!*, William Steig

IDEAS FOR TALKING ABOUT LANGUAGE

Playing with words together is a lot of fun. Try word games like this one at home.

Hink Pink: One person thinks of two rhyming words, such as "fat cat" or "lead bed." That person shares a clue so his or her partner can guess the rhyming words, such as "a large feline" (fat cat) or "a heavy sleeping place" (lead bed).

A few to get you started:

- Soaked animal in the house (wet pet)
- Seafood dreams (fish wish)
- Playground at night (dark park)