



Dear Parent or Guardian,

Our class just finished the sixth unit of the *Making Meaning*[®] program. During this unit, the students explored differences between fiction and nonfiction texts and used the strategy of *making connections* to their own lives to help them make sense of nonfiction. Nonfiction texts give readers true information about a topic and include not only books, but also other kinds of informational texts, such as magazine articles, recipes, baseball cards, menus, and game directions. The students also explored some of the features often found in nonfiction texts, such as tables of contents, indexes, photos, maps, and diagrams.

You can support your child's reading life at home by:

- Collecting nonfiction materials that are interesting to your child
- Talking about what you both learn from the nonfiction you read together
- Noticing and talking about nonfiction texts you encounter throughout the day, such as street signs, food labels, and park or playground rules

You can help your child make connections to nonfiction texts before reading by talking about what your child already knows about the topic.

While reading, you can help your child make connections by stopping every so often to talk about how what you're reading reminds your child of things he or she has seen or experienced.

I hope you and your child enjoy learning together about topics of interest to both of you.
Happy reading!

Sincerely,