Dear Family,

This week students will explore the question “What are some different ways to do research?” In the realistic fiction selection “Dear Mr. Winston,” from *When I Went to the Library*, students will read a letter of apology that conveys more than the simple message “I’m sorry for bringing my snake into the library!” And for more on our slithery friends, we’ll read the informational text *Field Guide to Snakes of the Southwest*.

**This week’s…**

**Target Vocabulary:** fault, borrow, reference, fainted, genuine, local, apologize, proof, slimy, insisted

**Vocabulary Strategy:** Antonyms

**Comprehension Skill:** Conclusions and generalizations—figure out unstated or broad ideas

**Comprehension Strategy:** Question—ask questions before you read, as you read, and after you read

**Writing Focus:** Informational writing—explanatory essay

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**Activities to Do Together**

**Vocabulary**

Play an antonym game! Think of an antonym for a Target Vocabulary word and see if your child can guess the correct word. For example, if you say the word “lend,” your child can guess “borrow.” Then ask your child to think of an antonym and let you guess the vocabulary word.

**Thinking About Poems**

Encourage your child to choose a poem that he or she enjoys and read it aloud. Discuss the poem. What does the poem make each of you feel and think?

**Drawing Conclusions**

Talk with your child about a book you’ve read together recently. Discuss what the author has to say about people or the world. Encourage your child to draw conclusions about the book. Have him or her write the conclusions and organize them into an outline for the book.

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