
WIT & WISDOM PARENT TIP SHEET

WHAT IS MY FOURTH GRADE STUDENT LEARNING IN MODULE 1?

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: A Great Heart

Module 2: Extreme Settings

Module 3: The Redcoats Are Coming!

Module 4: Myth Making

In this first module, *A Great Heart*, we will examine the complexity of the human heart. Not only is the heart a biological wonder, it is also a symbol of human emotions. We will explore what it means to have a “great heart,” both literally and figuratively.

OUR CLASS WILL READ THESE BOOKS:

Novel

- *Love That Dog*, Sharon Creech

Poems

- “The Red Wheelbarrow,” William Carlos Williams
- “Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening,” Robert Frost
- “The Pasture,” Robert Frost
- “Love That Boy,” Walter Dean Myers
- “dog,” Valerie Worth
- “Heart to Heart,” Rita Dove

Picture Book

- *The Circulatory Story*, Mary K. Corcoran

OUR CLASS WILL EXAMINE THIS PAINTING:

- *The Clinic of Dr. Gross*, Thomas Eakins

OUR CLASS WILL WATCH THIS VIDEO:

- “Exploring the Heart: The Circulatory System”

OUR CLASS WILL ASK THESE QUESTIONS:

- How does someone show a great heart, figuratively?
- What is a great heart, literally?
- How do the characters in *Love That Dog* show characteristics of great heart?
- What does it mean to have a great heart, literally and figuratively?

QUESTIONS TO ASK AT HOME:

Revise: As your fourth grade student reads, ask:

- *What do you notice and wonder?*

BOOKS TO READ AT HOME:

- *Clara and Davie*, Patricia Polacco
- *Clara Barton: Angel of the Battlefield*, Time for Kids
- *Who Was Clara Barton?*, Stephanie Spinner
- *Locomotion*, Jacqueline Woodson
- *The Circulatory System*, Christine Taylor-Butler

PLACES YOU CAN VISIT TO TALK ABOUT THE HEART:

When you visit the doctor together, ask:

- *What do you notice about the doctor?*
- *What do you wonder about your own heart?*
- *What do we do to be sure we have healthy hearts?*
- *Tell me about a time when you felt like our family showed great heart.*