
WIT & WISDOM PARENT TIP SHEET

WHAT IS MY KINDERGARTEN STUDENT LEARNING IN MODULE 3?

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: The Five Senses

Module 2: Once Upon a Farm

Module 3: America, Then and Now

Module 4: The Continents

In this third module, *America, Then and Now*, we will study how certain aspects of American life have changed over time. As we explore the past and the present, we ask the question: How has life in America changed over time?

OUR CLASS WILL READ THESE BOOKS:

Picture Books (Informational)

- *When I Was Young in the Mountains*, Cynthia Rylant
- *Home Then and Now*, Robin Nelson
- *School Then and Now*, Robin Nelson
- *Transportation Then and Now*, Robin Nelson
- *Communication Then and Now*, Robin Nelson
- *Now & Ben: The Modern Inventions of Benjamin Franklin*, Gene Baretta

Picture Books (Literary)

- *The Little House*, Virginia Lee Burton

Poem

- "Now We Are Six," A.A. Milne

OUR CLASS WILL EXAMINE THIS PAINTING:

- *Washington Crossing the Delaware*, Emanuel Leutze

OUR CLASS WILL LISTEN TO THESE SONGS :

- “Engine on the Track,” *Gayle’s Preschool Rainbow*
- “You’re a Grand Old Flag,” George M. Cohan
- “This Land Is Your Land,” Woody Guthrie

OUR CLASS WILL WATCH THIS VIDEO:

- “Sounds of a Glass Armonica,” *Toronto Star*

OUR CLASS WILL VIEW THIS WEBSITE:

- “Betsy Ross and the American Flag: Flag Picture Gallery,” Independence Hall Association

OUR CLASS WILL VIEW THESE PHOTOGRAPHS :

- *Old Hand Water Pump*, Judson McCranie
- Photographs from the article “Then & Now: The Stunning Speed of Urban Development,” S.A. Rogers

OUR CLASS WILL ASK THESE QUESTIONS:

- How was Cynthia Rylant’s life different from your life?
- How has life at home and at school changed in America?
- What changes does the Little House see in her neighborhood?
- How have communication and transportation changed in America?
- How did Benjamin Franklin’s inventions make life in America easier?

QUESTIONS TO ASK AT HOME:

As you read with your Kindergarten student, ask

- *What is the essential meaning of, or most important message in, this book?*

BOOKS TO READ AT HOME:

- *The White House*, Lisa M. Herrington
- *The American Flag*, Lisa M. Herrington
- *The Secret Subway*, Shana Corey
- *Mr. Ferris and His Wheel*, Kathryn Gibbs Davis
- *Maybelle: The Cable Car*, Virginia Lee Burton
- *This Is New York*, Miroslav Sasek
- *This Is Washington, D.C.*, Miroslav Sasek
- *Brick by Brick*, Charles M. Smith
- *I Have a Dream*, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Kadir Nelson
- *Here Come the Girl Scouts!: The Amazing All-True Story of Juliette “Daisy” Gordon Low and Her Great Adventure*, Shana Corey
- *Katy and the Big Snow*, Virginia Lee Burton
- *Benjamin Franklin*, Wil Mara
- *Electric Ben: Amazing Life and Times of Benjamin Franklin*, Robert Byrd
- *If You Lived in Colonial Times*, Ann McGovern
- *The House That George Built*, Suzanne Slade and Rebecca Bond

PLACES YOU CAN VISIT TO TALK ABOUT AMERICA, PAST AND PRESENT:

Visit a larger city or historic site together. Ask:

- *What do you notice and wonder about the buildings and setting?*
- *How is life in this city different from or similar to our lives?*
- *Imagine visiting this place long ago. What might look different in the past? What has changed over time? What has stayed the same?*

