

Scope at Home

Simple ideas to help your middle schooler explore the power of reading!

Dear Family,

Today your child is bringing home the April 2020 issue of *Scope*. Here are some activities you can do at home to build your child's reading and thinking skills with this issue:



- **Do a family read-aloud of *Far From Home* on pages 11-16.**

In a moving play inspired by a real sea turtle hospital in Florida, two teens are swept up in the race to save a dying sea turtle. Assign roles and read the play aloud as a family. Afterward, discuss what Lita means when she says, "Each of us is only a drop of water. But put them all together, and you get a mighty sea."



- **Check out the paired texts "The Great Stink" and "Toilets of the Future" on pages 17-21.**

Have your child read aloud to you the first article, about an 1858 sewage crisis that changed the course of history. Then read aloud to your child the second article, about today's sanitation challenges. Discuss: What is the relationship between water and disease?



- **Read "The Broom Dog," a story by award-winning author Jason Reynolds on pages 26-31.**

With your child, read silently together this sweet story of a boy who overcomes his fear in a surprising way. Then each of you choose your favorite line or section of the story to read aloud and explain why you like it. Last, discuss: How do Canton's feelings about the broom dog change? Why?



As always, we hope you enjoy reading *Scope* as a family!

Sincerely,

Your child's teacher and the editors of *Scope*

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Simple ideas to help your middle schooler explore the power of reading!

Dear Family,

This year, your child will receive *Scope*, a magazine published by Scholastic and created to help middle school students become strong, joyful readers. *Scope* features nonfiction, fiction, dramas, debates, infographics, poetry, and grammar. The magazine will come to the classroom eight times per year.

In class, students will use *Scope* to build reading, writing, and critical-thinking skills. You can play an important role in enriching your son's or daughter's learning at home. Here are a few ideas:

1. Look through the magazine together.

Ask: Which articles did you read at school? Which one did you find most interesting? Why?

2. Read an article together, and have your child choose one new word from it.

He or she can then explain the word's meaning to the family. Have a competition to see who can use it the most in conversation!

3. Read the debate article together.

Ask: Which side do you agree with? Why?

4. Watch a video together.

At Scope Online, you can find videos that go with the articles. Watch one with your child and talk about what you find interesting.



With each issue, you will get a letter with specific ideas for what you can do at home. But the most important thing is to simply enjoy spending time with your son or daughter while exploring the magazine. Even though your middle school student might be asserting more independence than in the past, reading together remains a wonderful activity to share. If English is not your first language, talk about the articles in the language you're most comfortable with.

We hope you'll look forward to seeing *Scope* when it comes home with your child and that it becomes a treasured part of your family routine!

Sincerely,

Your child's teacher and the editors of *Scope*

P.S. You can find even more great ways to use *Scope* with your child at Scope Online! Go to scope.scholastic.com and click Sign In. Then click "I am a student." When prompted, enter the classroom password.

The classroom password is

At Scope Online, you can:

- Listen to an audio version of a story or an article while reading along in the magazine.
- Watch videos that go with the articles and talk about what you find interesting.
- Review word meanings with a vocabulary slideshow and a fun interactive activity.

