

Dear Family,

Today your child is bringing home the May 2020 issue of *Scope*, or perhaps he or she is reading it online, as many of the nation's schools are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Below are some activities you can do at home to build your child's reading and thinking skills with this issue. There is also information about where to find other, free Scholastic resources designed to help you share the joy of reading together at home.

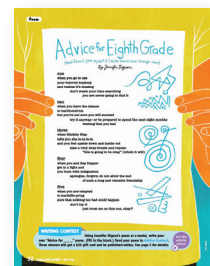
- **Do a family read-aloud of *The Sword in the Stone* on pages 11-16.** →

Don't miss this action-packed play based on the famous Arthurian legends. Assign roles, create costumes, gather important props, and read the play aloud as a family. Afterward, discuss: What qualities does the story celebrate? What makes a good leader?



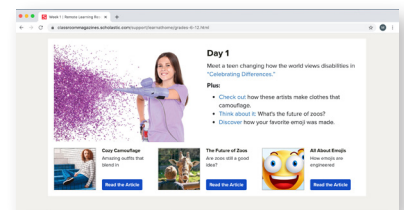
- **Read the poem "Advice for Eighth Grade (that I would give myself if I could travel back through time)" on the back page.** →

Take turns reading this delightful poem aloud to one another. You can also go to Scope Online ([scope.scholastic.com](http://scope.scholastic.com)) to hear poet Jennifer Dignan recite it herself. Afterward, you and your child can each choose a time period or experience in the past and list pieces of advice you'd give to your younger self. Then share your lists with one another.



- **Check out the "Scholastic Learn at Home" website.** →

Go to [classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html](http://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html) for day-by-day projects to keep kids reading, thinking, and growing at home. Click on "Grades 6-9" to access free Scholastic articles and stories, along with daily writing challenges and reading quests to use with any reading materials you have at home.



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

Sincerely,

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

# Scope at Home

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*

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

## The classroom password is

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### 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.

