

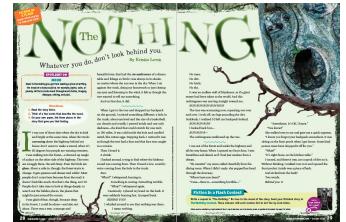


Dear Family,

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

- **Read a spine-tingling story together.**

Turn off the lights, light some candles, and read "The Nothing," a chilling work of flash fiction. Then discuss: What might happen in a sequel to this story?



- **Want more scares? Check out our special Halloween collection at Scope Online.**

Go to the [special Halloween collection](#). Then pick one of our plays based on classic horror stories—*Frankenstein*, *The Tell-Tale Heart*, or *The Monkey's Paw*—and read it aloud as a family. Don't forget costumes, props, and sound effects!



- **Help an author finish his stories.**

Superstar author Varian Johnson wrote three first lines to stories that don't exist (yet!):

1. *Did you know that ducks could talk?*
2. *Grandma smiled as she placed a quaddlebon on the table.*
3. *I knew I should have worn a parachute this morning.*

Choose a family favorite and write your own stories. Then read your stories aloud to one another to see the different approaches each of you took.



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

Sincerely,

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