What’s Happening in English Language Arts Class?
Your child’s class will use Wit & Wisdom as our English Language Arts curriculum. Your student will read and respond to excellent fiction and nonfiction writing. They will learn about key history, science, and literature topics.

A New Home
We will explore stories about people who come to America to live. We will learn how immigrants make new homes for themselves.

**OUR CLASS WILL READ THESE BOOKS:**

**Nonfiction Picture Books**
- *Coming to America: The Story of Immigration* by Betsy Maestro

**Fiction Picture Books**
- *Grandfather’s Journey* by Allen Say
- *Tea with Milk* by Allen Say
- *The Keeping Quilt* by Patricia Polacco
- *Family Picture* by Carmen Lomas Garza

**OUR CLASS WILL WATCH THIS VIDEO:**
- “*Dia de los Muertos Festival 2015*”—Artist Talk by Carmen Lopez Garza 1” from the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. (excerpts)

**OUR CLASS WILL READ THIS STORY:**
- “Two Places to Call Home” by Jody Kapp (Cobblestone article)

**OUR CLASS WILL LOOK AT THESE PHOTOGRAPHS:**
- “*The Steerage*” by Alfred Stieglitz
- “Untitled photograph of evacuees seeing the Statue of Liberty”

OUR CLASS WILL LOOK AT THESE FAMOUS MONUMENTS:

- “Liberty Enlightening the World” by Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi
- “Gateway Arch” by Eero Saarinen
- “The Washington Monument” by Robert Mills

OUR CLASS WILL LISTEN TO RECORDINGS OF REAL PEOPLE TELLING THEIR STORIES:

- “Morris Remembers the Steamship” from the Ellis Island Oral History Collection, National Park Service
- “William Remembers the Storm” from the Ellis Island Oral History Collection, National Park Service
- “Oral History Library” from The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc.

OUR CLASS WILL ASK THESE QUESTIONS:

- What challenges do immigrants face in a new country?
- Why do people immigrate to America?
- How do immigrants respond to challenges in a new country?

VOCABULARY

For their tests, your child should know the meaning of each word and how to use it in a sentence:

- kimono
- immigrated
- immigrants
- journey
- longing
- foreigner
- childhood
- homesick
- bilingual
- inspiring
- descendants
- ancestor
- generation
- unique
YOUR CHILD WILL WORK ON THIS LEARNING GOAL:
They will write a dialogue and be able to describe thoughts, feelings, and actions. Your child will write and describe a moment from the point of view of the main character.

The dialogue will include:

- **CHARACTERS** (who is the story about)
- **FEELINGS** (how the characters felt)
- **SETTING** (when and where the story takes place)
- **PROBLEM** (the main character’s challenge)
- **EVENT** (what happens)
- **RESOLUTION** (end of the problem)

Check out this [video](http://bit.ly/witwisdom3rd) to learn more about writing a dialogue.

AT HOME ACTIVITIES

PHONICS: Your child is learning phonics skills, so they will become a strong reader. Check out [mClass Home Connect](http://bit.ly/witwisdom3rd) for more great activities linked to your child’s learning!

LET’S TALK: Here is a way to talk with your child about what they are learning.

Ask your child:

- Why do you think so many people from all over the world have moved to America?
- What do you think it would be like if you moved to a brand-new place and had to learn a new language?
- How would you feel if you moved to a brand-new place?

WRITING: Your child is learning to write. They will write to express themselves and show what they have learned. Please try this writing activity at home.

**Imaginary interview**

- **Step 1:** Have your child imagine they are interviewing a kid from another country.
- **Step 2:** Have your child write out the entire interview using both points of view.

**Example:**

- **Me:** "I like to listen to... What do you like to listen to?"
- **Kid from other country:** "I like listening to..."
- **Me:** "I like to eat... What do you like to eat?"
- **Kid from other country:** "I like eating..."
- **Me:** "I speak this language _____ at home. What language do you speak at home?"
- **Kid from other country:** "We speak..."
- **Me:** "I like to do these dances... What do you like to do?"
- **Kid from other country:** "I like to..."

**REMINDERS**

- Ask your child’s teacher
  - For copies of their end of module tasks.
  - For their Amplify mClass Home Connect Letter.
  - What reading skills your child is working on.

- Watch for your child’s report card and schedule your parent/teacher conference.
- Check the City Schools [calendar](#) often for important dates/reminders.

**RESOURCES**

Want to read some books with your child at home?
These books will help them learn more about how people make new homes in America.

- At Ellis Island: A History in Many Voices by Louise Peacock
- Four Feet Two Sandals by Karen Lynn Williams
- Immigrant Kids by Russell Freedman
- In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson by Betty Bao-Lord
- Tucky Jo and Little Heart by Patricia Polacco
- Ellis Island by Elaine Landau
- Paper Son: Lee’s Journey to America by Helen Foster James
- The Great Migration: An American Story by Walter Dean Myers and Jacob Lawrence
- Lowji Discovers America by Candace Fleming
- Peppe the Lamplighter by Elisa Bartone
- The Memory Coat by Elvira Woodruff
- Laila’s Lunchbox by Reem Faruqi
- Landed by Milly Lee
- Rebekkah’s Journey: A World War II Refugee Story by Ann E. Burg
- Hannah’s Journal: The Story of an Immigrant Girl by Marissa Moses

**TIP:** Find these books for free at your local [Enoch Pratt Free Library](#)!

**Free Places to Learn and Explore Art on Immigration**
Walters Art Museum: Visit [here](#) for more information.