

Home Letter

Dear Family,

The first week starts by asking “How do friends help each other?” In the realistic fiction selection **Because of Winn-Dixie**, we’ll read about how a stray dog helps a lonely girl make friends in her new town. We’ll also read the informational selection **Because of BookEnds**, about a nonprofit group that helps recycle books through student-run book drives and donates the books to schools and youth organizations.

Test Date : _____
(on or about)

This week’s...

Target Vocabulary: comfort, mention, mood, properly, intends, consisted, positive, advanced, peculiar, talent

Vocabulary Strategy: Prefixes *re-*, *un-*, *dis-* (prefixes meaning “again,” “not,” and “undo”)

Comprehension Skill: Story structure—examine details about characters, setting, and plot

Comprehension Strategy: Summarize—briefly tell the important parts of the text in your own words

Writing Focus: Narrative writing—descriptive paragraph

Activities to Do Together

Vocabulary

See how many **Target Vocabulary** words you and your child can use in a conversation.

My Best Friend

Tell your child about a great friend you had growing up, or one you have now. How did—or does—this person help and support you? Then ask your child to tell you about one of his or her best friends. How are your friend and your child’s friend alike?

The World’s Greatest Friend

Talk with your child about what makes a great friend. What words and images does he or she associate with “friend”? Ask your child to use these ideas to write a fictional descriptive paragraph about what it would be like to have the world’s greatest friend!



Go to the *eBook* to read and listen to this week’s selection.