

Home Letter

Dear Family,

This week we explore the question “Why are courts an important part of our government?” In the fantasy selection **The Trial of Cardigan Jones**, we’ll read about the trial of a moose wrongly accused of stealing a pie. Students will also read the informational text **You Be the Jury**, which introduces students to the jury process.

This week’s...

Target Vocabulary: convinced, trial, jury, guilty, pointed, honest, murmur, stand

Phonics Skills: Long vowels *a, e, i, o, u*; words with the *VCe* pattern

Vocabulary Strategy: Dictionary/glossary

Comprehension Skill: Conclusions—refer explicitly to the text to figure out ideas that the author doesn’t state

Comprehension Strategy: Infer/predict—use clues to figure out more about the selection

Writing Focus: Narrative writing—dialogue

Activities to Do Together

Vocabulary

Make up sentences using the **Target Vocabulary** words, but leave the target word out as you say the sentence aloud. Then have your child fill in the word. For example, “I am convinced that she knows the truth.”

Take It to the Judge

Work with your child to find information about the Supreme Court of the United States. Also look for information about local and state courts in your community. Discuss how local, state, and national courts are alike and different.

Law of the Land

Talk with your child about local laws, such as those that forbid littering. Ask your child to write a paragraph about whether he or she agrees with one of the laws you’ve discussed.



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