DEAR TEACHER,

This kit includes everything you need to celebrate National Card and Letter Writing Month this April. These inspiring and engaging materials will support literacy skills while encouraging meaningful connections in your classroom. We can’t wait for your students to mail their letters!

Sincerely,
Scholastic and the United States Postal Service®

GET STARTED!

With this unit, your students can write letters to children in hospitals or elders in the community, or both! To prepare for the unit, follow these steps:

1. **Request Stamps** Add the date you would like students to bring in a stamp, then photocopy the homework slip and give to students to take home.

2. **Class Discussion** Describe the differences between email or digital messages and handwritten letters. Prompts to discuss the benefits of handwritten notes:
   - They show how much you care Letters convey commitment and thoughtfulness to those you are writing to. Taking the time to physically write a letter makes people feel special.
   - They honor tradition Ask students to consider the letters their grandparents might have written to each other, or how immigrant families separated by distance shared stories of their new lives.
   - They’re timeless People keep letters for years—maybe forever. Some letters end up in treasured scrapbooks or even museums for later generations to read.

3. **Review Videos** The following videos are about hospitalized children; choose one or two to share with your class as part of Lesson 1.
   - St. Jude Patient Story: Calvin [youtube.com/watch?v=GEWMcSgJvuE](https://youtube.com/watch?v=GEWMcSgJvuE)
   - St. Jude Patient Story: Jordyn [youtube.com/watch?v=MXFGy90A2Yc](https://youtube.com/watch?v=MXFGy90A2Yc)
   - Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt “People at Children’s Hospital” and “Words You’ll Hear at Children’s Hospital” [childrenshospital.vanderbilt.org/peoplevideo](https://childrenshospital.vanderbilt.org/peoplevideo)

GET MORE RESOURCES Visit [scholastic.com/letterwriting](http://scholastic.com/letterwriting) for additional lessons, a family activity sheet, and resources in Spanish.

Dear Family,

Our class will be participating in National Card and Letter Writing Month. Please send at least one stamp to school with your child on so your child can join in.

(Feel free to send in a few additional stamps as a class donation!)

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