Dear Teacher,

This program includes everything you need to celebrate National Card and Letter Writing Month this April. These inspiring and engaging materials created by Scholastic and the United States Postal Service® will support literacy skills while encouraging meaningful connections in your classroom.

Please review the great lesson plans and activities inside and then go to scholastic.com/letterwriting for bilingual resources as well as additional activities for you and your students’ families.

We can’t wait for your students to mail their letters!

Sincerely,

Scholastic and the United States Postal Service®

GET STARTED!

This unit includes lessons for writing letters to children in hospitals and to long-distance friends and family. You can choose to have students write one letter or both. To prepare for the unit follow these steps:

1. Request Stamps: Write in 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: Tell students about the difference between sending an email or digital message versus a handwritten letter. Encourage discussion on all the benefits of a handwritten note, using these prompts:
   • 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 generations to come 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. Baldrick’s Foundation, “Cheyenne’s Childhood Cancer Story” at http://bit.ly/2rpK8Ov
   • St. Jude, “Meet Jordyn” at http://bit.ly/2IrmH0q
   • Monroe Carrell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt, “People at Children’s Hospital” and “Words You May Hear at Children’s Hospital” at http://bit.ly/2Ire9Xe

Do you have a bilingual classroom? Visit scholastic.com/letterwriting for resources in Spanish.

LITERARY CONNECTIONS:
The following novels are great classroom tie-ins to this program.

Dear Mr. Henshaw by Beverly Cleary
Letters to Leo by Amy Hest
Regarding the Fountain by Kate Klise

THE PROGRAM INCLUDES:
★ Teacher lessons
★ Student activities
★ Easy-to-use stationery templates and envelopes designed by Scholastic and

American greetings

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

DATE: __________________ ______
so your child can join in.

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