

Letters Home: General Letter Home

Dear parents/guardians,

Welcome to *My Little Island*. We hope that your child will enjoy learning English with this engaging and exciting program.

The carefully developed lessons offer a wide range of activities that will give your child a solid foundation in learning English. The focus on using and associating natural gestures and actions with vocabulary helps children bring meaning to the words they are learning.

In the first book of the program, your child will explore the island with two characters—Kimmy and Timmy—and learn vocabulary and language structures related to these unit themes:

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| ✓ My Class | ✓ My Face |
| ✓ My Family | ✓ Food |
| ✓ My Room | ✓ Animals |
| ✓ My Toys | ✓ My Backyard |

At this first level of the program, your child may be introduced to phonics and learn some basic consonant sounds. Later in the program, your child will begin to associate sounds with letters, an important step in learning to read.

Your child learns a lot in the classroom, but support at home is essential to success. Here are few things you can do:

- ✓ talk with your child about what he/she is doing and learning about in English class
- ✓ encourage your child to “teach” you new words, as well as songs and chants
- ✓ be enthusiastic about your child’s achievements and progress
- ✓ do activities and use the CD-ROM and listen to the Songs and Chants CD together
- ✓ be supportive of small steps as these will lead to bigger ones

We wish your child great success and a wonderful time learning English with *My Little Island*.

Sincerely,

Letters Home: Welcome

Dear parents/guardians,

Welcome to the first unit of *My Little Island*. This unit welcomes your child to the program.

In this first welcome unit, children are introduced to their island adventure and the book's main characters, Kimmy and Timmy, as well as the program's puppet, Sammy the Squirrel. Your child will take delight in listening to a story about Kimmy and Timmy's first day of school. Your child will also develop skills and abilities, using:

- ✓ vocabulary: bye, good-bye, hello, hi, welcome
- ✓ language structures: *I'm (Kimmy)*. / *I'm (Timmy)*.
- ✓ actions: clap, color, dance, draw, hands down, hands up, jump, listen, look, open arms, sing, sit down, speak, stand up, walk, wave

You can support and help your child by:

- ✓ listening to the new songs and chants on the program's CD-ROM (MP3 files) or the Songs and Chants CD
- ✓ asking about the story and the book's characters, Kimmy and Timmy
- ✓ observing your child do coloring and tracing activities
- ✓ encouraging your child to do prewriting activities, such as matching and tracing to develop handwriting

As your child progresses through this first book, encourage him or her to enjoy learning and speaking English and to be proud of his or her accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Letters Home: **2** My Class

Dear parents/guardians,

Welcome to Unit 2 of *My Little Island*.

In this unit, My Class, children find out more about Kimmy and Timmy's school days. Your child will enjoy listening to a story about the surprise in Timmy's school bag. Your child will also develop skills and abilities related to:

- ✓ vocabulary: book, chair, crayon, pencil, table, teacher; red; circle, in; please, thank you
- ✓ language structures: *I have a (pencil). / I have (crayons).*
- ✓ values: *Ask nicely.*
- ✓ actions: clap, color, draw, look, make a circle in the air, paint action, point, question action, read, shake arms, sit down, tap on table

Your child is now learning vocabulary for classroom objects, as well as his/her first color in English (red) and first shape (a circle). You can help reinforce this new vocabulary by encouraging your child to point to and say the English word for the color or shape when he/she sees it around your home and community. You can also help reinforce vocabulary for classroom objects that your child is learning in this unit.

You can further support and help your child by:

- ✓ listening to the new songs and chants on the program's CD-ROM or the Songs and Chants CD
- ✓ listening to and viewing the unit's target vocabulary shown on the Picture Cards, which are available on the program's CD-ROM
- ✓ asking about the unit's story and characters
- ✓ observing your child do coloring and tracing activities
- ✓ encouraging your child to do prewriting activities, such as matching and tracing to develop handwriting
- ✓ praising your child's unit art project: a pencil holder

Encourage your child to enjoy English and to be proud of his or her accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Letters Home: 3 My Family

Dear parents/guardians,

Welcome to Unit 3 of *My Little Island*.

In this unit, My Family, your child will take delight in listening to a story about Kimmy and Timmy at the beach. In the story, Kimmy introduces Timmy to her family after her little sister knocks over his sandcastle. Your child will also develop skills and abilities related to:

- ✓ vocabulary: baby, brother, dad, family, mom, sister; blue; triangle, on
- ✓ language structures: *This is my (sister).* / *This is my (mom).*
- ✓ values: *Say sorry.* / *I'm sorry.*
- ✓ actions: clap, make a triangle in the air, paint action, question action, shake arms, wave

You can help your child learn English by encouraging him or her to use the English words and structures from the unit. You can also do the actions and gestures associated with the words along with your child.

You can further support and help your child by:

- ✓ listening to the new songs and chants on the program's CD-ROM or the Songs and Chants CD
- ✓ listening to and viewing the unit's target vocabulary shown on the Picture Cards, which are available on the program's CD-ROM
- ✓ asking about the unit's story and characters
- ✓ observing your child do coloring and tracing activities
- ✓ encouraging your child to do prewriting activities, such as matching and tracing to develop handwriting
- ✓ praising your child's unit social studies project: a picture frame for a family photo

Encourage your child to enjoy English and to be proud of his or her accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Letters Home: My Room

Dear parents/guardians,

Welcome to Unit 4 of *My Little Island*.

In this unit, My Room, your child will take delight in listening to a story about a house Kimmy makes out of a cardboard box. Your child will also develop skills and abilities related to:

- ✓ vocabulary: bed, clock, door, lamp, toy box, window; green; square, under
- ✓ language structures: *It's a (house).* / *It's a (lamp).*
- ✓ values: *Help others.*
- ✓ actions: clap, clock action, listen, make a square in the air, paint action, question action, shake arms, sleep action, wave

You can help your child learn English by encouraging him or her to use the English words and structures from the unit. You can also do the actions and gestures associated with the words along with your child.

You can further support and help your child by:

- ✓ listening to the new songs and chants on the program's CD-ROM or the Songs and Chants CD
- ✓ listening to and viewing the unit's target vocabulary shown on the Picture Cards, which are available on the program's CD-ROM
- ✓ asking about the unit's story and characters
- ✓ observing your child do coloring and tracing activities
- ✓ encouraging your child to do prewriting activities, such as matching and tracing to develop handwriting
- ✓ praising your child's unit math project: a window made out of squares

Encourage your child to enjoy English and to be proud of his or her accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Letters Home: 5 My Toys

Dear parents/guardians,

Welcome to Unit 5 of *My Little Island*.

In this unit, My Toys, your child will listen to a story about Kimmy who loses her favorite yellow ball and feels better when Timmy offers her a yellow picture book. Your child will also develop skills and abilities related to:

- ✓ vocabulary: ball, blocks, doll, kite, puzzle, teddy bear; yellow; 1, 2, 3
- ✓ language structures: *It's (blue)*.
- ✓ values: *Put away your toys*.
- ✓ actions: bounce a ball, cuddle, fly kite, hold up and wiggle fingers, jump, paint action, question action, stack blocks

You can help your child learn English by encouraging him or her to use the English words and structures from the unit. You can also do the actions and gestures associated with the words along with your child.

You can further support and help your child by:

- ✓ listening to the new songs and chants on the program's CD-ROM or the Songs and Chants CD
- ✓ listening to and viewing the unit's target vocabulary shown on the Picture Cards, which are available on the program's CD-ROM
- ✓ asking about the unit's story and characters
- ✓ observing your child do coloring and tracing activities
- ✓ encouraging your child to do prewriting activities, such as matching and tracing to develop handwriting
- ✓ praising your child's unit science project: a paper-bag kite

Encourage your child to enjoy English and to be proud of his or her accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Letters Home: My Face

Dear parents/guardians,

Welcome to Unit 6 of *My Little Island*.

In this unit, My Face, your child will enjoy listening to a story about Kimmy and Timmy at the beach. Children will delight in seeing Kimmy make a face in the sand and Timmy using seaweed for hair! Your child also will develop skills and abilities related to:

- ✓ vocabulary: ears, eyes, face, hair, mouth, nose; brown; 4
- ✓ language structures: *Open/Close your eyes.*
- ✓ values: *Cover your nose and mouth.*
- ✓ actions: close/open eyes, hold up and wiggle fingers, jump, open/close mouth, paint action, point to nose, question action, shake head, wiggle ears with hands

You can help your child learn English by encouraging him or her to use the English words and structures from the unit. You can also do the actions and gestures associated with the words along with your child.

You can further support and help your child by:

- ✓ listening to the new songs and chants on the program's CD-ROM or the Songs and Chants CD
- ✓ listening to and viewing the unit's target vocabulary shown on the Picture Cards, which are available on the program's CD-ROM
- ✓ asking about the unit's story and characters
- ✓ observing your child do coloring and tracing activities
- ✓ encouraging your child to do prewriting activities, such as matching and tracing to develop handwriting
- ✓ praising your child's unit art project: a face made out of modeling clay

Encourage your child to enjoy English and to be proud of his or her accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Letters Home: 7 Food

Dear parents/guardians,

Welcome to Unit 7 of *My Little Island*.

In this unit, Food, your child will enjoy listening to a story about Kimmy and her family who surprise Timmy with a cake for his birthday. Most children love food so they will especially enjoy this unit, which is all about it! Your child will also develop skills and abilities related to:

- ✓ vocabulary: cake, cheese, juice, milk, water, yogurt; orange (color); 5
- ✓ language structures: *I like/don't like (juice)*.
- ✓ values: *Share*.
- ✓ actions: cheer, frost action, hands out, hold up and wiggle fingers, jump, make a circle with arms, pretend to pour, question action, rub tummy

You can help your child learn English by encouraging him or her to use the English words and structures from the unit. You can also do the actions and gestures associated with the words along with your child.

You can further support and help your child by:

- ✓ listening to the new songs and chants on the program's CD-ROM or the Songs and Chants CD
- ✓ listening to and viewing the unit's target vocabulary shown on the Picture Cards, which are available on the program's CD-ROM
- ✓ asking about the unit's story and characters
- ✓ observing your child do coloring and tracing activities
- ✓ encouraging your child to do prewriting activities, such as matching and tracing to develop handwriting
- ✓ praising your child's unit science project: a poster of dairy products

Encourage your child to enjoy English and to be proud of his or her accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Letters Home: **8** Animals

Dear parents/guardians,

Welcome to Unit 8 of *My Little Island*.

In this unit, Animals, your child will enjoy listening to a story about how Kimmy's brown dog turns "blue" and is soon back to "brown" again! Children love animals and will learn the English words for some common ones in this unit. Your child will also develop skills and abilities related to:

- ✓ vocabulary: bird, cat, dog, fish, mouse, turtle; purple
- ✓ language structures: *The (dog) is/isn't (blue)*.
- ✓ values: *Be nice to animals*.
- ✓ actions: flap like a bird, make mouse paws, hold up and wiggle fingers, look, move like a fish, paint action, question action, swim like a turtle

You can help your child learn English by encouraging him or her to use the English words and structures from the unit. You can also do the actions and gestures associated with the words along with your child.

You can further support and help your child by:

- ✓ listening to the new songs and chants on the program's CD-ROM or the Songs and Chants CD
- ✓ listening to and viewing the unit's target vocabulary shown on the Picture Cards, which are available on the program's CD-ROM
- ✓ asking about the unit's story and characters
- ✓ observing your child do coloring and tracing activities
- ✓ encouraging your child to do prewriting activities, such as matching and tracing to develop handwriting
- ✓ praising your child's unit math project: a cat made out of shapes (circles and triangles)

Encourage your child to enjoy English and to be proud of his or her accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Letters Home: My Backyard

Dear parents/guardians,

Welcome to Unit 9 of *My Little Island*.

In this unit, My Backyard, your child will enjoy listening to a story about what happens when Kimmy flies a kite one day in her backyard. The story has an unexpected ending, which your child will enjoy telling you about!

Your child will also develop skills and abilities related to:

- ✓ vocabulary: flower, grass, nest, rain, sun, tree; pink; 1–5
- ✓ language structures: *What is it?*
- ✓ values: *Play safely.*
- ✓ actions: clap, hold up and wiggle fingers, look, make a circle, paint action, question action, wiggle fingers like raindrops

You can help your child learn English by encouraging him or her to use the English words and structures from the unit. You can also do the actions and gestures associated with the words along with your child.

You can further support and help your child by:

- ✓ listening to the new songs and chants on the program's CD-ROM or the Songs and Chants CD
- ✓ listening to and viewing the unit's target vocabulary shown on the Picture Cards, which are available on the program's CD-ROM
- ✓ asking about the unit's story and characters
- ✓ observing your child do coloring and tracing activities
- ✓ encouraging your child to do prewriting activities, such as matching and tracing to develop handwriting
- ✓ praising your child's unit art project: flower made out of balled-up tissue-paper

Encourage your child to enjoy English and to be proud of his or her accomplishments.

Sincerely,
