

My Journey Home

Family Connection

This week your child is reading *Dangerous Crossing*, a historical story about the exciting sea voyage a young John Quincy Adams embarks upon with his father.

DAY
1

Vocabulary on the Go Talk with your child about a dangerous storm you both have experienced. Why was it dangerous? What did you think was going to happen? Try to use some of these words as you discuss what happened during the storm.

distracted viewpoint surveyed bracing shattered

DAY
2

Causes of the Revolution *Dangerous Crossing* takes place during the American Revolution. What events caused the American colonies to enter into war with England? With your child, make a list of events that led to the Revolutionary War. You can use the Internet or library books for help.

DAY
3

Passing the Time of Day During the long sea voyage, the young John Adams took up learning French as a useful way to pass the time. What are some other useful things you might want to learn while on a long trip? Would you learn to knit, take up drawing or writing, or become a master at chess? Together, identify at least three things you would like to learn.

CHALLENGE

How would you teach someone one of these ways to pass the time?
Work together to write a simple set of directions for one of your ideas.

Fathers and Sons

Read and discuss this selection together.

Benjamin and William Franklin

John Adams and his son John Quincy had a warm relationship. But another brave colonist named Benjamin Franklin did not have such a relationship with his son William. William Franklin was present when his father famously flew a kite during a lightning storm in 1752. The two men shared many interests, but their differing political viewpoints led to a deep rift between father and son.

In 1763, William was made Royal Governor of New Jersey by King George III. William's loyalty to the king and his father's role in the American Revolution made their relationship hard. In 1776, William was arrested and jailed for supporting the British. He later made England his permanent home.

The long-standing conflict between Benjamin and William Franklin is evident in the elder Franklin's will. In it, Ben declared that his son would inherit "no more of an estate he endeavored to deprive me of." In the end, their differing opinions on politics shattered the relationship between this famous father and son.



Benjamin Franklin

Name the Presidents John and John Quincy Adams both became President of the United States. How many of our Presidents can you name? Find a President whose name begins with each of the letters in this word: AMERICA. (Clue: One letter does not have a President).



Book Links

- *Sleds on Boston Common*, by Louise Borden
- *George vs. George*, by Rosalyn Schanzer **CHALLENGE**



Internet Challenge

Help your child search the Internet for information about John Quincy Adams' life and presidency. Then work together to make a timeline about his life.

Home Letter

Dangerous Crossing
Home Letter

Dear Family,

The class begins with a historical fiction selection. In **Dangerous Crossing**, John Adams and his 10-year-old son, John Quincy Adams, encounter storms and enemy vessels while crossing the Atlantic on a secret mission. We will discuss and answer the question “What can individuals do to help shape a new government?” In addition, we will read about the events leading up to the Revolutionary War and the founding of the United States in the informational text **Revolution and Rights**.

This week’s...

Target Vocabulary: cramped, distracted, viewpoint, shattered, surveyed, pressing, representatives, embark, bracing, conduct

Vocabulary Strategy: Reference materials

Comprehension Skill: Cause and effect—tell how events are related and how one event causes another

Comprehension Strategy: Visualize—use text details to form pictures in your mind of what you are reading

Writing Focus: Opinion writing—opinion essay

Activities to Do Together

Vocabulary

Review this week’s **Target Vocabulary** with your child, and then have him or her give a synonym for each of the words. Use a thesaurus to check each word.

Check Your Local History

Discuss with your child the history of your area. Talk about what attracted people to settle in your area. How did some individuals make history in your community?

Maybe It Was a Log Cabin

Help your child do online or library research about the first school in your area. Have your child write a paragraph about his or her opinion of the school.



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

Dangerous Crossing

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| 1. bargain | 22. mentor |
| 2. journey | 23. attempt |
| 3. pattern | 24. collide |
| 4. arrive | 25. ignore |
| 5. object | |
| 6. suppose | |
| 7. shoulder | |
| 8. permit | |
| 9. sorrow | |
| 10. tunnel | |
| 11. subject | |
| 12. custom | |
| 13. suggest | |
| 14. perhaps | |
| 15. lawyer | |
| 16. timber | |
| 17. common | |
| 18. publish | |
| 19. burden | |
| 20. scissors | |
| 21. narrate | |

Name _____ Date _____

Dangerous Crossing
Vocabulary Word Cards

cramped

pressing

distracted

representatives

viewpoint

embark

shattered

bracing

surveyed

conduct

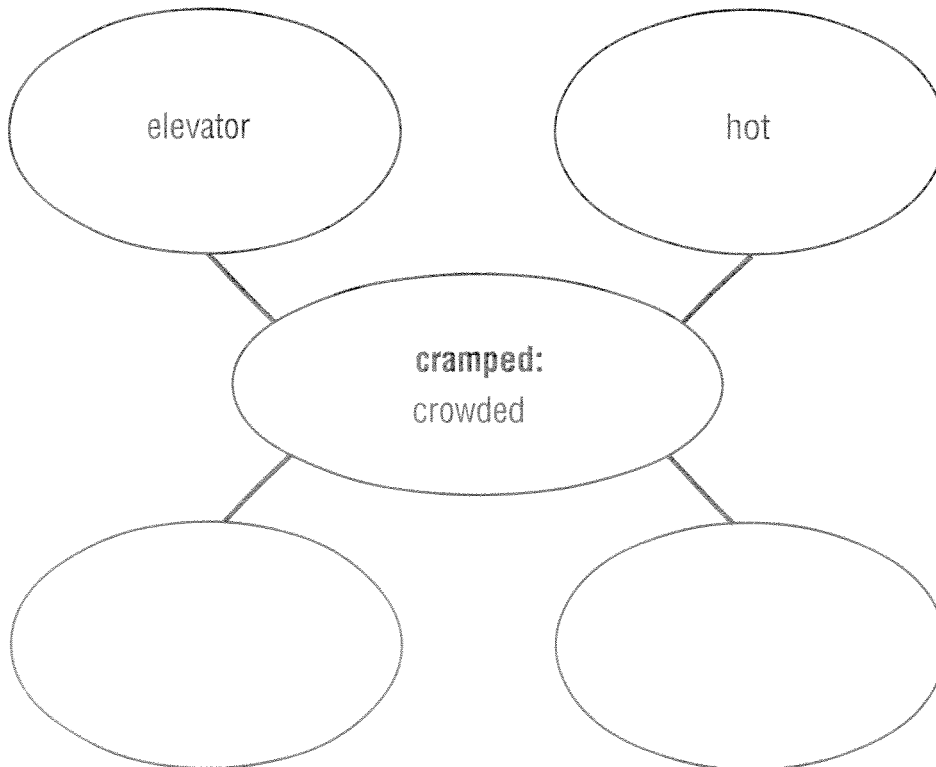
**Ben Franklin Goes
to Paris**
Target Vocabulary

Target Vocabulary

Complete the Web with words that relate to the Target Vocabulary word in the center. Use one of the related words in a sentence with the Target Vocabulary word. Then make Webs and write sentences for five of the other Target Vocabulary words on another sheet of paper.

Vocabulary

cramped	distracted	viewpoint
shattered	surveyed	pressing
representatives	embark	bracing
conduct		



Sentence:

Reference Materials

Dangerous CrossingVocabulary Strategies:
Reference Materials

Read the definitions below. Then match each task in Column 1 to the source you would use in Column 2.

A **dictionary** tells you the definition of a word and how it is spelled. It also tells you what part of speech the word is: noun, verb, adjective, or adverb.

A **thesaurus** tells you synonyms and antonyms for a word.

A **glossary** defines a word used in a book. Glossaries are usually found in the back of the book.

Column 1

- A.** find a synonym
- B.** find out what part of speech a word is
- C.** find the definition of a word used in a book
- D.** find out how to pronounce a word

Column 2

- 1.** glossary
- 2.** dictionary
- 3.** thesaurus

Name _____

Date _____

Reference Materials

Dangerous Crossing
Vocabulary Strategies:
Reference Materials

Word Bank

tranquil

fragile

reserved

truthful

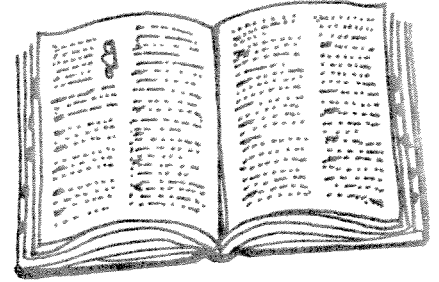
Use a dictionary to find the syllabication of each word in the box and to pronounce it aloud to a partner. On the lines below, write a definition of each word as well as a synonym for each word. Use a dictionary and a thesaurus to complete your work.

Reference Materials

Dangerous CrossingVocabulary Strategies:
Reference Materials

Read the definitions below. Then fill in the blank to complete each sentence.

A **dictionary** tells you the definition of a word and how it is spelled. It can help you know how to pronounce a word. It also tells you what part of speech the word is: noun, verb, adjective, or adverb.



A **thesaurus** tells you synonyms and antonyms for a word.

A **glossary** defines a word used in a book. A glossary is usually found in the back of the book.

1. You can look up the meaning of a word in the _____.
2. If you're reading a book and come across an unfamiliar word, you can check the back of the book to find the word and its meaning in the _____.
3. A _____ is a good source to find synonyms.
4. If you want to know if a word is a noun or a verb, look in the _____.
5. To find an antonym for a word, check the _____.
6. To figure out how to pronounce a word, the _____ is the place to look.