



# Family Newsletter for Unit 1

## The Land of the United States

### Learn About It

In this unit, your child will learn:

- about the geography of the nation, including its land, water, and resources
- how to define a region and what makes the regions of the United States unique

Here are some ways that you can help your child learn:

### Read to Learn More About It

*One Day in the Alpine Tundra*, by Jean George. Relates a boy's adventure when he is alone on a stormy day in the alpine tundra of Wyoming.

*Puzzle Maps U.S.A.*, by Nancy L. Clouse. Introduces the 50 states and their shapes through simple puzzle maps.

*Sierra*, by Diane Siebert. One of the Sierra Nevadas describes the beauty of these mountains.

### Talk About It

Chapter 1: What on Earth Is Geography?

**Where you are** It is important to know your location on Earth. With your child, pretend you are giving directions to your house for someone who lives on the moon. What landforms and bodies of water are near where you live? On what hemisphere do you live? What natural resources can be found in your area?

Chapter 2: Understanding Regions

**Differentiating regions** The United States has many different regions. Ask your child which region you live in. What are some characteristics of your region?

### Make It

**A comparison chart** There are three types of local regions in the United States. Working together, design a chart comparing urban, suburban, and rural areas. Use pictures from magazines to describe each region. Include these pictures in your chart.



### Technology

Check out  
[www.eduplace.com/parents/hmss05/](http://www.eduplace.com/parents/hmss05/)  
for more information.