

Linking to the Present

Learn About It

In this unit, your child will learn:

- about the events leading up to the end of the Cold War and the fall of communism
- how the United States interacts with its neighbors, Canada and Mexico, and the role of the United States in world events

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

Talk About It

Chapter 13: Our Nation and the World

Competition Just as the United States and the Soviet Union competed for power and respect during the Cold War, people compete for those things, too. Talk with your child about the different types of competition he or she has experienced, such as competing in a spelling bee or running in a race.

Chapter 14: America Today and Tomorrow

Good friends Discuss with your child why friends are important. The United States, Canada, and Mexico often work together as friends to get things done, such as making laws. How does being friends benefit the United States, Canada, and Mexico?

Make It

Community service Doing good things for your neighborhood or community is part of being a good citizen. Take a walk around your community and think of ways you can clean up your neighborhood, such as picking up litter. Then together with your family, choose one of the ways you can make your community cleaner.

Read to Learn More About It

Canada (My Country Series), by Bernice and Cliff Moon. This book gives an overview of Canada's geography, including first-person accounts that describe ways of life in this country.

Passport to Mexico, by Carmen Irizarry. An overview of the geography, history, people, economy, religion, education, and culture of Mexico.

Young Peacemaker's Project Book, by Kathleen Fry-Miller. Presents instructions for a variety of projects that promote peace and concern for the environment.

**Technology**

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