Learn About It
In this unit, your child will learn:

• where New Yorkers live, what kinds of work they do, and how they celebrate their culture
• how New Yorkers govern themselves, what rights and responsibilities belong to every citizen, and how citizens’ rights are protected

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

Talk About It
Chapter 7: Life in New York
A Land of Diversity New York is multicultural because people from many diverse backgrounds have come here to live. Discuss the benefits of living in a state where there are so many people from different backgrounds.

Chapter 8: Government of New York
Three Branches Like the federal government, New York State government has three branches—legislative, executive, and judicial. Each has different responsibilities in making, enforcing, and interpreting our laws. Talk with your child about the ways in which each citizen can participate in creating and observing laws.

Make It
A List New York State has dozens of important landmarks that tell about its people and their history. With your child, make a list of the landmarks and historic sites in your area. For each place on your list, include a brief explanation of what it means to your community.

Read to Learn More About It
My Chinatown: One Year in Poems, by Kam Mak. The author of this book grew up in New York City’s Chinatown, and in this book he shares a year of his childhood through poetry and beautiful paintings.

The New York Subways, by Lesley A. Dutemple. In existence for nearly 100 years, the New York City subway system has had a tremendous impact on the lives of those who visit, live, and work in New York.

My New York, by Kathy Jakobsen. A fictitious account of a young girl’s excursion through New York City that includes many of the city’s famous landmarks.

Technology
Check out www.eduplace.com/parents/hmss/ for more information.