For additional resources please visit:

www.highlightskids.com
From the same magazine that kids know and love, this website allows students to read, play games, and conduct science experiments!

www.timeforkids.com
TIME for Kids is a weekly classroom news source with real-world topics- it’s the best nonfiction text you’ll find! The stories will help students learn about social studies, science, and math also!

http://pbskids.org/lions/stories/
PBS tells stories with characters from Between the Lions on this site. With many Folktales and Fable options, students can listen and follow along with the words provided on the screen. The animated books, reading, and music are engaging for all young readers!

If you have any questions, speak to your student’s teacher or email earlylit@ hartfordschools.org

For more information, please visit www.hartfordschools.org/earlyliteracy

Visit any of the Hartford Public Library branches or your local library! www.hplct.org

How can good readers compare and contrast stories?
CLASSROOM BOOKS IN UNIT 5
Ask your local librarian for books!

Whole Class Read Aloud:
- *Bibim Bap for Dinner* by Laura E. Williams
- *Baseball Saved Us* by Ken Mochizuki
- *Amazing Grace* by Mary Ann Hoffman

Whole Class Shared Reading—each student has their own copy of:
- *School in Colonial America* by Mark Thomas
- *Bigmama’s* by Donald Crews
- *My Father*
- *When I First Came to This Land* by Harriet Ziefert
- *Friends at School*

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS ADDRESSED IN UNIT:
- What does it mean to compare and contrast?
- Why is it useful to compare and contrast?
- How can I write about my opinion?
- How can I relate my opinion writing to what I am reading?
- In what ways can I present my writing?

STUDENTS LEARNING TARGETS ALIGNED TO THE CONNECTICUT CORE STANDARDS

Your child can...
- compare and contrast things that happen to characters in stories
- compare and contrast informational texts about the same topic

ACTIVITIES FOR HOME:

**Sentence Structure**
- Say a sentence out loud. Challenge your child to determine if it ends with a question mark, exclamation mark, or period. Try saying the sentence with all 3 at the end and change your voice to match. Take turns challenging each other.

**Long Vowel Teams**
- Visit your local museums and libraries! (Wadsworth Atheneum, Science Center, Hartford Public Library’s Children’s Room)
While you’re exploring, identify words with two vowels next to each other i.e. ai, ie, ee, ea, ue... Have your child try to read the word aloud while you bring focus to the vowels.

**Long Vowel Sounds**

*Text Structure: Compare and Contrast*

Show how two or more things are alike and/or how they are different:
- similar to... different from... (e.g. color, size, shape, smell, sound)
- both... and... (e.g. one..., the other...)
- same as... (e.g. same, like)