For additional resources please visit:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z3c6tfr
This website teaches kids how to type using the home keys, a very important skill to have! Students will complete 4 steps to learn how to effectively use a keyboard.

www.ixl.com/ela/
This site allows students in grades 1-12 to focus on a specific Common Core skill. Students (or an adult) can choose a skill, and students will then have multiple exposures to examples that will help them master that particular choice. They receive a score upon completion.

www.magickeys.com/books
Magic Keys shares stories with children written by numerous authors. Students can turn the pages when they are ready and can utilize their reading skills in this character rich stories!

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 do good readers determine the author’s message or the theme of a text?

UNIT THEMES:
environment, location, geography
CLASSROOM BOOKS IN UNIT 7
Ask your local librarian for books!

Whole Class Read Aloud:
• Antarctica by Alan Fowler
• How the Camel Got His Hump by Robert James

Whole Class Shared Reading—each student has their own copy of:
• Sacajawea: Her True Story by Joyce Milton
• Lizard and the Painted Rock by Elizabeth Lane
• The City Mouse and the Country Mouse by Rozanne L. Williams

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS ADDRESSED IN UNIT:
• How can you determine the central message or main topic of a text?
• Why is the central message or main topic important to the text?
• Why is it important to understand what the story is trying to tell us?
• What are the different types and purposes of narrative writing?

STUDENTS’ LEARNING TARGETS ALIGNED TO THE CONNECTICUT CORE STANDARDS

Your child can...
• retell a story using important details.
• determine the important message, lesson, or moral in a story.

ACTIVITIES FOR HOME:
Choose an advertisement (a magazine, newspaper, food box, billboard..) Have a conversation with your reader about “What is the writer trying to tell us? Why did they write it?”

AUTHOR’S PURPOSE ANCHOR CHARTS

5-FINGER RETELLING
When you retell you need:

1. Characters
2. Problem
3. Setting
4. Events
5. Resolution

When you retell:

1. Who are the characters in the story?
2. What is the problem?
3. What is the setting?
4. What are the events?
5. What is the resolution?