

# Home Letter

**A New Team of Heroes**  
Home Letter

## Dear Family,

This week we will look at team and one-on-one competition. Students will explore the question “What can you learn from champions?” In the drama **A New Team of Heroes**, children will see how teamwork unites new and old members of a soccer team. Students will also read **C-H-A-M-P-I-O-N**, an informational text about the National Spelling Bee.

### This week’s...

**Target Vocabulary:** excitement, score, athlete, tense, succeed, league, earn, partners, pleasure, contribute

**Phonics Skill:** Words ending in *-er*, *-le*

**Vocabulary Strategy:** Prefixes *un-*, *dis-*

**Comprehension Skill:** Understanding characters—tell why characters act as they do

**Comprehension Strategy:** Monitor/clarify—as you read, find a way to clear up what doesn’t make sense

**Writing Focus:** Informative writing—prewrite a research report

## Activities to Do Together

### Vocabulary

Ask your child to use at least five of the **Target Vocabulary** words as her or she discusses a favorite sport or sports team.

### Battling Stage Fright

Talk with your child about how people overcome nervousness or stage fright when they are called to perform in front of other people.

### C-H-O-R-E-S

Talk to your child about different contests and have him or her choose one to research. Then have your child list some of things he or she would write about in a report telling about this contest.



Go to the *eBook* to read and listen to this week’s selection.

## A New Team of Heroes

Lauren, Carla, Hiro, and Gayle played soccer. Their team was the Hawks. Carla was the best **athlete**. She was the reason the Hawks often won. One day, as the team practiced, a new player joined them. His name was Manny.

During the big game, Manny sat alone. Carla was able to **score** two goals. The score was tied. Gayle sat next to Manny and watched the game. Hiro and Lauren joined them.

Then the opposing team made another goal. Manny noticed something about one **competitor**. The goalie on the other team always moved to the left. He made a plan to score a goal.

Manny told the others his plan. The team was **tense**. Would Manny's plan **succeed**?

Carla and Lauren **darted** to the goal's left. The goalie moved to the left, just as Manny had predicted. Carla passed the ball across to Manny, and he scored! Their teammates were **rooting** for them. There was a lot of **excitement**.

On the next play, Manny passed the ball to Carla, and she scored. Everyone cheered. The Hawks had won the game!

# An Exciting Game

**A New Team of Heroes**  
Oral Language Chant

Rosa and Kyle are talking about a soccer game they saw on TV. Act out the parts with a partner. Then switch roles and act them out again.

**Rosa:** I'm sorry I didn't call you last night, Kyle. I had a good reason for not calling, though. I was watching the soccer game on TV. It was an important game, because it was for the **championship**.

**Kyle:** I know, Rosa. I watched it, too. It was a very **tense** game.

**Rosa:** It was. Both teams have very good **athletes**.

**Kyle:** I was **rooting** for the Hawks. How about you?

**Rosa:** I was, too. I predicted they would win.

**Kyle:** Too bad you were wrong. They lost! The opposing team played better last night. They were better **competitors**.

**Rosa:** There was a lot of **excitement** when they won.

**Kyle:** They were very good players. I wish I could be a better player.

**Rosa:** Me too. Let's go practice now. Maybe then we'll **succeed** and become better players.

