



School-Home Connection

Your child is reading “Papa Tells Chita a Story” by Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard. In this historical fiction selection, a young girl is entertained by the story of her father’s brave trek to bring back reinforcements during the Spanish War. She enjoys his oft-told story so much that she gleefully anticipates all the details. You may enjoy discussing the story and doing these activities with your child. Together you can develop and explore your child’s language skills.

More Family Stories

Have a discussion with your child about the things that make a family special. You may be able to find these family stories in your local library:

- *The Many Troubles of Andy Russell* by David A. Adler. Harcourt Brace, 1998.
- *Pickles to Pittsburgh* by Judi Barrett, Atheneum, 1997,
- *Clean House* by Jesse Hass, Greenwillow, 1996.

VOCABULARY

Ordinary Words

The following words are new vocabulary your child has learned while reading “Papa Tells Chita a Story”:

colonel	soldier
brambles	weary
outstretched	stumbling
urgent	

Discuss the meanings of these words. Then ask your child to use them to make a simple crossword puzzle on a piece of paper. Have him or her divide the words into Across and Down and write clues to the meanings of the words. Let your child give the completed puzzle to another family member to solve.



TIME TO READ

Encourage your child to read for at least 30 minutes outside of class each day.

Celebrate Family

Tell your child a story you remember your family telling you when you were a child. It can be about something real or made up; it can be brief or detailed. What is important is that it is a story you can pass down to your child. Then have your child tell you a favorite story that he or she has heard from you. Enjoy your retellings. Perhaps you can even tape record your stories to share with aunts, uncles, cousins, or grandparents at a family party.

