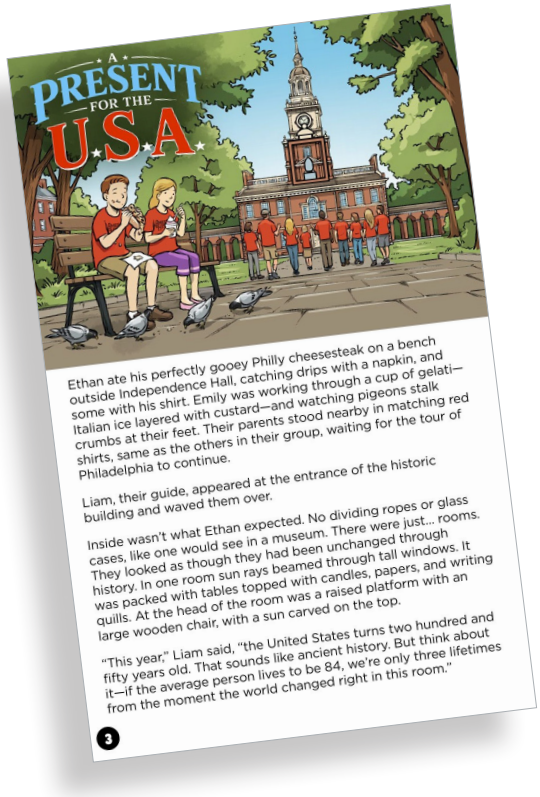
Article Overviews and Conversation Starters

This month, your kids will be reading several articles. Below you'll find summaries of each one along with suggested conversation starters. These discussions will help reinforce key concepts while also giving you, the parent, an opportunity to share your experiences and perspectives on the topic.



A Present for the USA.

While visiting Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Ethan and Emily step into the room where the Declaration of Independence was debated and signed. Their tour guide, Liam, explains how delegates from all thirteen colonies gathered there in 1776 to decide whether they would remain subjects of the king or become an independent nation. As the children learn about the Declaration's famous words, they discover the ideas of natural rights, self-government, and the courage it took to challenge the most powerful empire in the world.

Standing in the very place where history was made, Ethan and Emily saw the Declaration in a new way. It was more than a letter in history—it was a standard to judge our government today. As America approaches its 250th birthday, Ethan reflects on what Americans can give to the country. The answer is the same gift those patriots gave long ago: a commitment to stand up for liberty and help keep it alive.

Conversation Starters

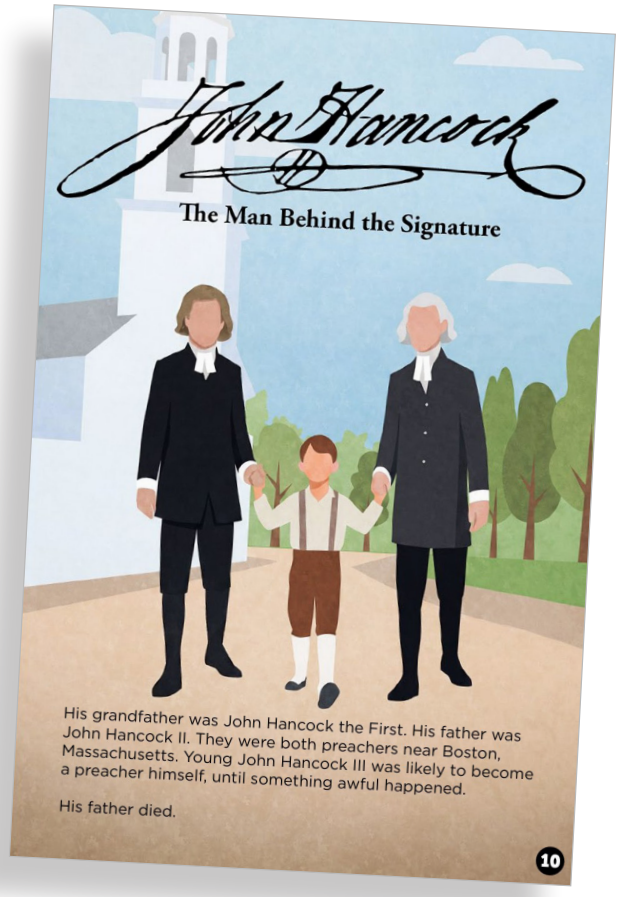
• Can you think of a time when you had to stand up for something you believed was right, even when it was unpopular or difficult?

• For Americas 250th birthday Ethan thought we should stand for up for liberty. What are some ways you can do this in your life?

Parent Guide: June 2026

John Hancock: The Man Behind the Signature.

Most people recognize John Hancock for the enormous signature on the Declaration of Independence, but his story began long before that famous moment. After losing his father as a child, Hancock was adopted by his wealthy uncle and eventually inherited one of the largest business empires in colonial America. When new taxes and growing British control threatened the colonies, Hancock faced a difficult choice: protect his fortune or risk everything by joining the growing resistance movement.



Hancock chose to stand with the cause of the rebellion. Working alongside Samuel Adams and the Sons of Liberty, he helped organize opposition to British rule and became a leading figure in Massachusetts. He later served as president of the Continental Congress and was the first to sign the Declaration of Independence.

Conversation Starters

• Why do you think so many people remember John Hancock's signature but know very little about his life?

• If you had inherited a large fortune like John Hancock, what are some good causes or projects you would want to support?

Share your conversation experiences with the world!

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