

# GPN Reading Rainbow Program



## My America:

### A Poetry Atlas of the United States



This geographical poetry collection includes poets' descriptions of every region of the United States. LeVar and a troupe of youngsters, who share their part of the USA, bring a map of the United States to life as this adventure explores America's beauty and diversity. We visit Erica, age 12 who lives on the family ranch in Montana, and ten year-old Stephen who lives in New York City – showing how being a kid in America is as varied as the 50 states that form this country.

**Here are several activities you and your child can do together after watching this program.**

#### "State" of the Art Cookies

Using your favorite sugar cookie recipe, make a batch of sugar cookie dough. Roll out the dough. Have a map of the United States handy to look at. Using a butter knife, you and your child working together, cut out a cookie in the shape of a state. Colorado would be easy, it would kind of look like a square, where as Florida may be a little harder. Cut out a variety of states. Bake the cookies according to the recipe. When the cookies are cool, frost them and use gel frosting to write the name of the state on the cookie. Eat and enjoy!

#### Erupting Volcano



You will need:

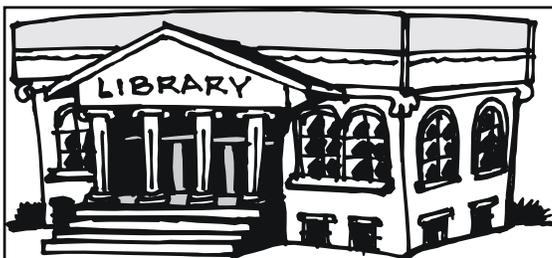
- ◆ Plastic soda bottle
- ◆ Clay
- ◆ Water with red food coloring
- ◆ 2 T. baking soda
- ◆ Vinegar
- ◆ 3 drops of liquid detergent

1. Stand the plastic soda bottle up in a baking pan. Form the clay around it to look like a volcano.
2. Fill the bottle most of the way with warm water with a few drops of red food coloring.
3. Add a few drops of liquid detergent into the bottle.
4. Add 2 T. baking soda.
5. Slowly pour vinegar into the bottle and watch your volcano erupt.

#### Fantasy Vacation

Look at a United States map with your children. Discuss which states have points of interest. Ex: Wyoming has Yellowstone Park; New York has the Statue of Liberty, etc. Then plan a family fantasy vacation. Find historical point or places of interest that you would like to visit. If you have a chance research your destinations. Using a piece of string map out a fantasy trip. Close your eyes and pretend you are really there.

## A Trip To The Community Library



*Here are some books you can find on your next trip to the library*

- ◆ **America The Beautiful** by Katherine Lee Bates
- ◆ **Scholastic Encyclopedia Of The United States** by Judy Bock & Rachel Kranz
- ◆ **From Sea To Shining Sea** selected by Amy L. Cohn