

Dear Family:

We have been working on concepts of print, oral expression, phonological awareness, letter formation and sound recognition.

We are now ready to move forward to Unit 3 in Foundations®. In Unit 3, your child will continue to practice and learn:

- *to distinguish long and short vowel sounds*
- *to use phonemic awareness skills to identify the beginning and ending sounds in words*
- *to blend three sounds into words*
- *segmenting and spelling 3-sound short vowel words*

In this Unit, spelling words will begin with the letters **f l m n r s**, and end with the letters **d g p t**. The middle sound will be a short vowel sound.

Your child will also learn to read sentences in meaningful “chunks” or phrases. With practice, this skill will greatly enhance comprehension.

Your child will learn Trick Words. These are high frequency words that must be memorized. You will cut out Trick Word flashcards to help your child practice.

Be sure to review your child’s “Alphabet Book” often. As you work with your child, keep this available for reference. Whenever your child hesitates with a sound, have him or her look up the keyword.

Enjoy helping your child discover the world of reading. Provide help whenever needed. Most importantly, remember to have fun!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Bunde



WEEK 3

the

a

and

WEEK 4

are

to

is

his

→ **Cut words into flashcards. 1.** Each night, help your child **read** the Trick Words. These words must be memorized.

WEEK 5

as

has

WEEK 6

was

→ Cut words into flashcards. 1. Each night, help your child **read** the Trick Words. These words must be memorized.



Help Your Child Recognize Sounds at the Ending of Words

A word's **ending** sound is much more difficult for your child to hear. You will need to pronounce the words very carefully. This is another activity where you can give mini-rewards and then count responses.

Picture Book Activity

You can use a picture book and ask for the ending sound on the name of the picture (rather than the beginning sound). For example: for the word **dog**, the sound /g/ is the answer.

Word Play Activity

Say the word. Ask your child to repeat the word and tell you what sound was at the end of the word (one piece of cereal) and if possible what letter makes that sound (another piece of cereal).

You can do this activity several times. Mix up the words or just do a few at a time.

Word	What sound?	What letter?
chin	/n/	n
farm	/m/	m
map	/p/	p
heart	/t/	t
band	/d/	d
bark	/k/	k
bus	/s/	s
hill	/l/	l
rag	/g/	g
tap	/p/	p
grass	/s/	s
hit	/t/	t
rob	/b/	b
fluff	/f/	f
mom	/m/	m
ran	/n/	n
hop	/p/	p
whiz	/z/	z