Dear Family:

Fundations® Unit 3 will take approximately one week to reach mastery. This Unit works on **closed syllable exceptions**. The vowel in a closed syllable usually has a short vowel sound like $\check{\mathbf{u}}$ in the word \mathbf{up} . However, there are five exceptions to this rule. It is helpful to stress the meaning of the word **exception** to your child (something that does not follow the rule). It is important for your child to be able to quickly identify these exceptions:

/ild/ as in child /ind/ as in kind /old/ as in cold /olt/ as in colt /ost/ as in post

They are exceptions because the vowel has a *long* sound (it says its name) rather than a short vowel sound. We mark them like this:

Also in this Unit, I will teach some important words that students should memorize. We call these *Trick Words* because most of them cannot be sounded out.

I will introduce five new sounds. Your child will learn the keywords for these now, but we will still study them for reading and spelling in more detail later in the year. Whenever you see //, the sound of the letters appears within the bars:

ay says /ā/ as in play ai says /ā/ as in bait ee says /ē/ as in jeep ea says /ē/ as in eat ey says /ē/ as in key

There are activities to help reinforce these concepts. Thank you for your help and be sure to have fun! Please write down any questions you might have for me and I shall get back to you.

Sincerely,



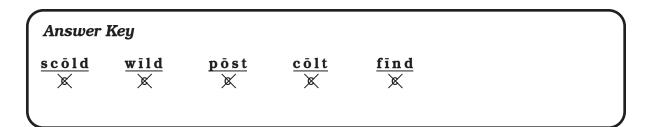


Follow These 5 Steps:

- **1.** Dictate the word or sentence.
- **2.** Have your child repeat it.
- **3.** Have your child write it.
- **4.** Read the word or sentence again and have your child proofread it carefully.
- **5.** Check his/her work.

			WEEK	(1			
Dictate the words a	nd sentence to y	our	child follo	wing the 5 s	steps listed	above.	
On Monday Dictate	Review Words	\rightarrow	drink	spank	cramp	sprint	
On Tuesday Dictate	Current Words	\rightarrow	scold	wild	post	colt	find
On Wednesday Dictate	Trick Words	\rightarrow	done	goes	pretty	shall	pull
On Thursday Dictate	Sentence	\rightarrow	Jess has	s a bad cold	l.		

On Tuesday, have your child mark the closed syllable exceptions.



Name: Date:





Do the "Read, Write and Mark" Activity

Have your child read the following words, copy them on the line and mark up the closed syllable exceptions.

wild	wīld	host
grind		bolt
post		mind
mold		old
sold		child
blind		gold
jolt		find
colt		most
wind		mild
scold		hold





Do the "Sentence Marking" Activity

Have your child read the sentences and scoop into phrases. Highlight or box the exception sounds.

- 1 Which man is the best host?
- **2** Wind up the top and let it spin.
- **3** Jess has a bad cold.
- **4** Did you find the lost cat?
- **5** Who sold the most in the class?
- **6** The van hit the post with a jolt.
- **7** Can you help me find the path?
- **8** Use the bolt to lock the gate.
- **9** The small child will nap in his crib.
- **10** Jan was kind to the old man.

Cut words into flashcards. 1. Each night, help your child read all Trick Words from previous units, as well as these. 2. Have your child trace each new Trick Word with his or her finger and spell it aloud; and 3. Cover up the Trick Word and have your child write it with his or her finger on the table while naming each letter.

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WEEK 1

Name:	Date:
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Writing Grid for Word and Sentence Homework

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