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 **u** in the word **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 $/\bar{a}/$ as in bait

ee says /e/ as in eep

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,

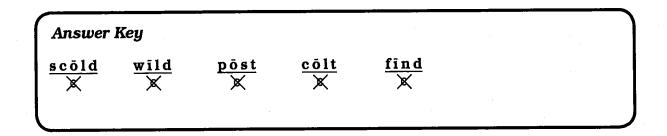


Follow These 5 Steps:

- **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 | and sentence to | your | child follo | wing the 5 | steps listed | above. | |
| On Monday Dictate | Review Words | → | drink | spank | cramp | sprint | |
| On Tuesday Dictate | Current Words | → | scold | wild | post | colt | find |
| On Wednesday Dictate | Trick Words | → | done | goes | pretty | shall | pull |
| On Thursday Dictate | Sentence | \rightarrow | Jess has | s a bad col | d. | | |

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







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.

pretty

goes

one

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.

WEEK 1

| Jamai | Date: |
|-------|-------|
| lame: | Date: |

UNIT 3

Writing Grid for Word and Sentence Homework

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