Words Their Way Spelling Program

Dear Families,

Your child will be bringing home a collection of spelling cards/words weekly that have been introduced in class (inside an envelope each Friday/ and they are yours to keep and continue practicing.) Each night of the week your child is encouraged to do a different activity to ensure that these words and the spelling principles they represent are mastered. The first activity has been modelled at school and your child will be able to show you how to do it and they can independently complete that activity. The other games are lots of fun and incorporate play into learning. Please enjoy playing with your child!

Monday

Have your child sort the words into categories like the ones we did in school. Your child should read each word aloud during this activity. Ask your child to explain to you why the words are sorted in a particular way – what does the sort reveal about the spelling pattern? Ask your child to sort them a second time as fast as possible (speed sort).

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (choose a different sorting game each night)

Partner Sort

1. Place the keywords for sorting on the table.
2. Read each word card aloud and have your child repeat the word and the appropriate keyword as he or she places it under the right keyword. Check to see that words are sorted correctly.
3. Switch places and have your child read you the words while you sort them.

Mixed – Up Sort

1. Place the keywords for sorting on the table and sort the word cards.
2. Have your child turn his/her back to the cards while you mix them up so that some word cards are under the wrong keyword.
3. After turning back around, your child must sort the words correctly while reading aloud the word and keyword. Check to see that words are sorted correctly then switch places.

Word Hunt

Assist your child in doing a word hunt, looking for words in a familiar book that have the same sound, pattern, or both. Try to find two or three for each category.

Write Sort

1. Write the keywords on a piece of paper.
2. As you call out the words in random order your child should write them under the appropriate keyword. Call out any words your child misspells a second time and give them hints such as, emphasizing the sound he or she is missing or comparing the incorrectly spelled word to the spelling patterns of other words.

Spell back

Using your finger spell a word on your partner's back.

Pictionary

One partner draws a picture of the words and the other must guess the word.

Charades

Partners take turn acting out and guessing the words.

Sentence writing

Write interesting sentences using at least 5 of the words from the list.

Speed Sort

Speed sorting is no different than ordinary word or picture sorting except that you can time your child using a stopwatch. It is important that your child reads the word card and the keyword aloud as he or she quickly sorts. Ensure that you get a turn as well for your child will enjoy trying to beat your time!

Thank you for your support. Together we can help your child make valuable progress. These cards will help support your child's reading and writing literacy skills.

Sincerely,

Ms. Ciolfitto