

Dear Parents,

Your child will be bringing home a collection of weekly spelling words that have been introduced to the class. Each night of the week your child is expected to do spelling activities to ensure that these words and the spelling principles they represent are mastered. These activities have been modeled and practiced in school, so your child can teach you how to do them.

Monday: The word sort for the week is introduced in class, and students should have a copy to practice with at home. Remind your child to sort their new words into categories like the ones we did in school. Your child should read the word aloud during this activity. This will help them to internalize the spelling patterns learned, as well as recognize the words while reading. Ask your child to explain to you why the words are sorted in a particular way - what patterns do you see? Why are these words grouped together? What do these words have in common? Why are these ones "oddballs"?

Homework: Writing sort - due Friday.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: Do some of the sorting activities learned in class to prepare for the test on Friday. Here are some suggestions:

- *Speed Sort:* Ask your child to sort the words as fast as possible, and time them. They can try to beat their time by doing it a second time.
- *Mix and Fix:* Put the words in random columns, and have your child fix them, until they are correct.
- *Back spelling:* Print the words on his/her back and have them guess what you are spelling.
- *No peek sort:* Read the word to your child, without them seeing the word, and have them tell you what category the word belongs in. This allows them to connect the sounds with the spelling pattern.
- *Word clues.* Pick a word and give clues as to which one you are thinking of. For example, if you pick "geology" you might give the clues "study" and "rocks".

Homework: Choose two of the activities on the attached page. These are due Friday

Friday: There will be a test on 10 words studied during the week. Students will not know which words will be selected.

Thank you for your support. Together we can help your child make valuable progress.

Sincerely, Ms. Willis



Word Study Homework



1. This homework must be completed each week:

- ✓ **Practice word sort:** Take a copy of the words to sort at home. Remember to read them aloud as you sort.
- ✓ **Writing sort:** Write the words in their categories in your spelling book. Each column needs a specific explanation as to how they are sorted ("These words all...") Make sure it is neat - use a ruler!

2. Choose at least 2 of these activities:

- ✓ **Alphabetical order:** Alphabetize all of the weekly spelling words.
- ✓ **Word pictures:** Illustrate all of your weekly words. Pictures must be neat and demonstrate you understand what the word means.
- ✓ **Sentences:** Use all of your words in sentences that show you understand the meaning. Make sure you use capitals and proper punctuation.
- ✓ **Dictionary:** Look up 10 words in the dictionary. Write a definition for each, in your own words.
- ✓ **Synonym:** Write a synonym (a different word that means the same) for each word
- ✓ **Antonym:** Write an antonym (a word that means the opposite) for each word.

If you want a challenge, try these!

- ✓ **Story:** Use all of your words in a short story or paragraph. It should be organized and make sense.
- ✓ **Poetry:** use the words to write a poem

Make sure!

- ❖ All work is complete, neat and careful
- ❖ Each activity has the date and title
- ❖ You complete your work by the due date - **Books are collected on Fridays**

Weekly Spelling Routines

What I must do...	What is it?	When is it due?
Writing sort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - write my words in their categories (use a ruler!) - explain why the words are grouped together at the bottom of each column ("These words all...") 	<p style="font-size: 2em;">Friday!</p>
2 Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - choose 2 activities from the list: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • alphabetical order (all words) • sentences (all words) - must show you understand the meaning • word pictures (all words) - must show the meaning • dictionary (10 words) - in your own words • synonyms (all words) - different words with the same meaning • antonyms (all words) - opposites - if I want a challenge I can choose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • story / paragraph (all words) • a poem 	
Test	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - test on 10 words for the week (you won't know which ones!) 	