

Dear Families,

Parents often ask how they can support the development of spelling skills at home. Research has shown that memorization of word lists often does not transfer to a student's everyday writing, so it can be challenging to create meaningful spelling "homework". We are providing these materials to assist you with supporting your child's spelling development at home. Our goal is for students to learn skills and strategies that will help them spell or read any word, rather than memorizing words in isolation. Students who can internalize basic spelling patterns can make connections among words in many ways. This type of practice allows students to generate their own word lists, leading to increased engagement and motivation. We hope that you find these materials to be helpful when working with your child at home!

Spelling development in Kindergarten focuses first on letters as smaller units within a word. Students begin to recognize and name letters. Students then learn about the correspondence between letters and the sounds that they make. Using all that they have learned about letters, students work on rhyming and manipulating word parts. Across the year, students learn to recognize, read, and eventually write some common high-frequency words. Using the list of "Kindergarten High Frequency Words", there are many fun activities that you can do at home to support your child in learning these words. The following links should be helpful:

<http://childhood101.com/2013/09/sight-words-activity-ideas/>

<http://www.icanteachmychild.com/sight-word-activities-for-kids/>

Have fun, and happy spelling!

Mrs. Atilho and Mrs. Moreno

*adapted from "Chunk Spelling" by Second Story Window, www.secondstorywindow.net