

Helping Your Students at Home

March 16, 2020

Supporting Pre-K, Kindergarten and 1st grade Students

At-Home Activities for Phonemic Awareness

Say-It-Fast Guessing Game:

Play Say-It-Fast with your child when saying everyday things. Say the sounds in a word slowly and have your child try to guess what the word is. Start with one-syllable words at the end of a sentence.

Examples: Tonight for dinner, we are having /h/ /a/ /m/. Guess what's for dinner?

On Saturday, we will go to the /p/ /ar/ /k/. Guess where we are going?

Break-It-Down Guessing Game:

Exchange roles with your child and have him or her play the Guessing Game with you. This will cause your child to have to be the one to think about breaking the word into individual sounds.

Sorting Game:

Help your child to determine the number of sounds heard in items/objects found in your home. Sort the items into piles according to the number of sounds heard in each word.

Examples:	2 Sounds	3 Sounds	More Sounds
	pie	book	pencil
	tea	doll	clown

At-Home Activities for Letter-Sound Correspondence

I Spy

Find a letter printed on a book, sign, box, product, can, etc. that your child needs to practice. Say, “**I spy the letter that goes with the _____ sound.**” The child has to find the letter.

The game can be played at home, outside, inside a store, etc.

Alternate version: Have the child find an object that begins with the sound. “I spy something that begins with the /m/ sound.”

Sound Search

Help your child to search for items that begin with a particular sound. “**Can we find some things that begin with the /s/ sound?**” Walk around with your child finding as many items as you can that begin with or contain the target sound.

Which Letter? Or Which Sound?

Lay out several letter cards on the table. Say the sound that goes with one of the cards and have the child point to the letter that makes that sound. If they select the right letter, they keep the card. If they don't, you keep the card. The person with the most letter cards wins.

Alternate Version: Say the letter names for one of the cards laid out on the table and have the child point to the correct letter.

At-Home Activities for Word Level Blending

From Letters to Words

Using letter tiles, letter cards or magnetic letters, show your child how individual letters become words.

1. Select letters to make a word
2. Spread the letters apart and say the sound for each letter with space between the sounds
3. Push the letters a little closer together and say the sounds a little more closely together
4. Repeat step 3 until the letters touch
5. Sound out and read the word with your child

Search and Sound it Out

Search your environment for words that are simple to sound out (whether at home, outside, at the store, etc.) Help your child to use Sound it Out to read the word.

What's Wrong?

Sound out a word for your child, reading one of the sounds incorrectly. Have your child explain what was done incorrectly.

Example: Read the word 'camp' by saying the sounds /c/ /a/ /m/ /b/, then read 'camb'

Additional Activities for Kindergarten and Reading Roots students (K-3 students reading Shared Stories)

Have students read for 20 minutes per night. (Shared Stories, Library Books)

Use the attached Sound Mat to play Bingo with your child. Call out a sound, have students place a counting chip or check the box for the called sound until they have bingo.

Stretch and Read

Have students say the sounds in each word, then blend them a little faster, then say the word. (See attached Dolch Word List by Reading Roots Story)

Sight Word Practice

Have students read the Red Words on the inside front cover of their Shared Stories. (See attached Dolch Word List by Reading Roots Story)

Put those words on red construction paper and use as flash cards. Students should look at the word, think and say the word.

Sound Spelling

Give your student a blank sheet of paper and have them number it 1 - 10. Say a sound from the alphabet strip or sound mat and have students write the sound.

For first and second grade students say a word from the list of green words and have the student write the word.

Watch SFA Vimeo videos with your students daily.

Pre-K - <https://vimeo.com/channels/cchomelink>

Kindergarten - <https://vimeo.com/channels/kchomelink>

Reading Roots - <https://vimeo.com/channels/rrhomelink>

Students in Grades 2-8 reading in Reading Wings or Reading Edge (6-8)

Have students read for 40 minutes per day. It does not have to be all at once. 20 minutes in the morning and 20 minutes in the afternoon.

- Have students use the attached strategy cards as they read.
- Have students select 8 words from the text to define and create a sentence using each word.

Comprehension

Have students ask themselves several questions about the text, such as...

(for narrative readings)

1. Can you explain what is happening in this part of the text?
2. Retell the important events of the text.
3. Describe the character's actions.
4. Describe the character's feelings.
5. Predict what will happen next?
6. What conclusions can you draw from the text?
7. How do you know that?
8. Have students complete a Story Map (see attached)

(for informational readings)

1. What is one of the main ideas the author has described?
2. What other main idea does the author write about?
3. Describe some details that the author uses to support the main ideas?
4. Can you apply the information provided to some experience of your own?
5. What did you learn from reading this text?
6. Have students complete an Idea Tree (see attached)

Fluency

Have students read out loud for 1 minute and record how many words they read correctly during that minute. Have students keep track to see if they can beat their own record daily.

Have students read out loud and give them feedback on how well they read.

- Did they read with expression?
- Did they read smoothly?
- Did they read words correctly?

Extending the Text

- Have students complete an activity that helps them to extend their learning of the text using the attached Book Club Activities.