

WORD FAMILIES



Over the next week will be working with Word Families. Word family words consist of words that share the same **ending letters** and **phonetic sounds**. For example, *bet, let, wet, net, jet, or bat, sat, cat, mat, fat*, etc. Students will become skilled at recognizing, reading, writing, and building words that belong in the same families. Through circle games, demonstrations, and small group reading lessons the students will truly gain confidence in their abilities. We will use **writing sheets, cut and paste activities, and mini-books** to expose each student to this fun and sometimes silly word family topic! Mini-books are a great tool for use at home as well. We recommend re-reading your child's mini-books with them at home to reinforce their understanding of word families. For our more proficient readers, we will be focusing on more challenging word family words such as, *mail, pail, trail, snail*, etc. One of the best ways to help young learners get a head start on reading is to build word family words together – some real and some not. The students love it, and it becomes a highlight of this unit.

SIGHT WORDS



Sight words are words that can be tricky to sound out using the traditional phonemic alphabet. These words are best learned when memorized, or learned by “**sight**” using repetition and flashcards in many cases. This week we will *combine our handwriting lessons and our sight words lessons*. Students will receive a handwriting worksheet comprised of all commonly used sight words. We encourage you to point these words out while reading to your child during story time or bed time reading and wherever you see them!

HANDWRITING



We have attached (hard copy) an example of the Traditional Manuscript printing style we are using in class this year. It shows the proper letter formation along with numbered details showing which strokes to make first, second, third or forth. This is a good resource to have handy or hang in a visible place at home so that your child can easily spot a letter they may be trying to write. This is handwriting made easy.

JERSEY DAY



Please mark your calendar for Thursday, February 2nd – Jersey Day! With the Super Bowl right around the corner – we encourage the students to wear their favorite sports jersey or shirt. Football, basketball, baseball, soccer, cricket, or any sports team at all! We have even heard that some of the girls are planning on wearing cheer-leading outfits – great! GO TEAM!

FINGER-PLAY



We have attached (hard copy) of this weeks featured finger play for you to use at home with your child. It is the “Five Fingers Play”. This finger play teaches rhythm, rhyme, fine-motor skills & fun!