Weekly Word Study Routines

At Home Routine:
Daily spelling sort practice at home provides your child with additional practice time. I encourage you to become involved in your child’s nightly spelling work. A new spelling sort will come home every other Monday. Spelling practice should be short and last no more than 4-5 minutes a night!

At Home Monday: Cut and Sort (Week 1) OR Draw/Write (Week 2)

Wk 1- Cut out the spelling sort cards. Have your child then initial EACH spelling sort card on the back (this way if one goes missing we know who it belongs to). Then remind your child to sort or pair the pictures/words into categories like the way we did in school. Your child should read each word or name each picture aloud during this activity. Ask your child to explain why they sorted or paired the cards the way they did. What does the sort reveal about spelling in general? What do the pictures/words have in common?

Wk 2- have students practice writing out just the words/pictures in a sorted list (columns!)

NOTE: Please be sure that your child’s spelling sort returns to the plastic bag adhered on the right side of their Blue Take Home Folder every night. The cut spelling sort should travel back and forth to school daily so they can continue to practice during “Word Work” in Daily 5

At Home Tuesday: Speed Sort

First, sort the cards at a normal speed. Then, mix the cards up and ask your child to sort them a second time as fast as possible. You could time them, and see if each consecutive turn they can beat their last time.

At Home Wednesday: Word/Picture Hunt

Assist your child in doing a word/picture hunt, looking for words/pictures in books, or in their surrounding community (signs, grocery store, the mall, museums, etc.). These words/pictures should fit the weekly sort’s pattern. Try to find two or three words to fit each selected pattern/category.

At Home Thursday: Draw and Label

Take the words/pictures found on Thursday and have your child add them to their sort by drawing and labeling. Discuss how these words/pictures fit with the sort or selected category. Are there other words that could fit in the spelling categories? Have them make any additional words or draw any additional pictures they can think of.

Have your student write or draw each of their spelling sort words in a list. Check that they have written them sorted in columns of

Optional Friday-Sunday: Can you and your child come up with a fun spelling game with their sort? Memory, Matching, Guess the Letter, and Guess the Word are all fun games that can easily be turned into a Spelling game. You can also practice making them into sentences by writing or spelling verbally. The most important thing to remember when practicing spelling is to MAKE IT FUN! Building your child’s confidence and eagerness is the most important thing to focus on as we build their spelling abilities. Thank you for all of your support. I know that your help at home will help your child make valuable progress.
At School Routine:

Week 1 - Monday: Introduction to the Sort

We will model the categorization routine using picture/word cards and help students recognize the sounds and/or letters that they are studying. Sound categories are established using a letter/word card and a key picture that is used repeatedly to help students develop strong association between the sound and letter/word it represents.

Students will work on their specific sort for two weeks.

Week 2 - Friday:

Students will be assessed on 10 of their spelling words. We are looking for the word family to be spelled correctly, not necessarily the entire word.

Other Classroom Activities:

Students will be engaging in many different types of word work activities throughout the week during our Daily 5 literacy time.