

Dear Parents,

Your child will be bringing home a collection of spelling words each week. On the **first** week, your child will be learning a pattern in class. The **second** week's words will include 5 high frequency words and 5 personal words. The personal words will be selected by you or the child's teacher. These words should be words that have been misspelled repeatedly in his/her writing.

Each night of the week your child is expected to do a different activity to ensure that these words and the spelling principles they represent are mastered. The Word Study Journal should be returned the next day for the teacher to check for completion. Some of the activities will be a standard assignment and other activities will be self-selected by your child.

Students will be completing all written assignments in their Word Study Journal. A parent signature on the planner indicates that you have reviewed your child's word study homework each night and acknowledged that he/she has completed the day's assignment accurately.

Week 1: Monday

Your child should select 6 words to write in sentences. Check the sentences after they write them to check for proper usage of the word. This is important as children study homophones, roots and suffixes where meaning is an issue. Sentences should be at least 8 words in length and should be varied in how they are written.

Week 1: Tuesday

Choice activity – chose one from the list in the front of the journal

Week 1: Wednesday

Choice activity – chose one from the list in the front of the journal

Week 1: Thursday

Do a practice test to prepare for Friday's test. As you call out the words in a random order your child should **write** them in categories. Call out any words your child misspells a second or even third time. On Monday you received a Master Sort to check spelling and the categories.

Week 2: Monday

Your child should select 6 words from his/her high frequency word/personal word list to write in sentences. Check the sentences after he/she writes them to check for proper usage of the word. This is important as children study homophones, roots and suffixes where meaning is an issue. Sentences should be at least 8 words in length and should be varied in how they are written.

Week 2: Tuesday

Choice activity – chose one from the list in the front of the journal

Week 2: Wednesday

Choice activity – chose one from the list in the front of the journal

Week 2: Thursday

Do a practice test to prepare for Friday's test in the Word Study Journal.

Below is the Choice Activity list that is in each child's journal.

Word Hunt - Assist your child in looking in a familiar book for words that have the same sound, pattern, or both. Try to find two or three words for each category. As you read, have your child add new words to the chart from class.

Draw and Label - After your child selects 10 words to draw and label, discuss why he/she chose each word and how he/she decided what to draw.

Make a New Word - Help your child change a letter(s) or add letters to make new words. For this activity, he/she should choose 5 words and there should be 3 changes for each of the words. Three possible options:

***Rhyming words:** Initial letters may be substituted to create lists of words that rhyme. For example, starting with the word "black," a student might generate, stack, quack, track, shack, and so on.

***Prefixes/Suffixes:** Example: If the word is "record," your child could chose to write prerecord, rerecord, recording, recorded, etc.

***Letter Exchanges:** Example: If the word is hope, your child could change the "h" to a "c" to make cope and then add and "s" to make scope.

Dictionary Dive - Chose 10 words from the assigned list and write the pronunciation from a dictionary of that word and then write the number of syllables for that word.

Word Web – Chose 6 words from the assigned list and create a word web. Write words that are synonyms or are related to that word.

Parts of Speech – Write 4 columns nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs and write words from the assigned list into one of the four categories. Sometimes words will fit into more than one category.

Newspaper Heading - Choose 6 words. Write short, creative newspaper headlines.

Comic Strip – Write a three to five frame comic strip, using at least 6 words from the assigned list.

Alphabetical Order – Write all of the words on the list in ABC order.

Write a Story – Write a short story that makes sense, using as many words as possible.

Tongue Twister – Write 6 funny tongue twisters. Use as many words as possible.

Rainbow Words – Choose 10 of the hardest words and write each of them 3 times each, using a variety of colors.

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

Sincerely,
The Fourth Grade Team