

Dear Family:

I am now introducing Unit 2 in Foundations®. Your child is going to:

- Learn phonemic awareness skills.
- Blend, read, and spell short vowel words with three sounds.
- Learn or review six words by memory: **a, and, the, is, his, of**. These are called Trick Words because they cannot be sounded out. Instead, your child needs to learn these by memorizing them.
- Learn capitalization, punctuation, and word spacing for sentence dictation.
- Retell stories in detail and sequence.

It is important for your child to recognize and be able to hear and “move around” the beginning, ending and middle sounds of a word. As always **your help** is appreciated to keep your child on track. To help your child focus on sounds, you can play word games such as **“I’m Thinking of an Object”** and **“Change That Word.”** The directions are on the following pages.

Also, make flashcards on index cards for the Trick Words. Have your child read these quickly each night. Throughout the year, I will have you make more Trick Word flashcards to practice.

Remember to have FUN! Also, please write down any questions you might have, and I shall get back to you.

Sincerely,





This is Your Reference for Letter-Keyword-Sound

In addition to writing letters and knowing the letter name, your child is learning (or reviewing) the consonants and short vowel sounds using keywords.

Throughout the year I will send home more sounds for your child to learn.

In school, we do a daily drill practicing these sounds. Right now, we are doing the sounds listed on this sheet.

Your child keeps a notebook at school with these keyword pictures. During the year, whenever your child cannot think of the sound that a letter makes, ask him or her to look at the keyword picture.

That is a hint for the sound. The sound is represented by a letter between //.

For the letter **a**, we use the keyword **apple**. This word helps your child know the sound /ă/. Whenever we practice these sounds, we say the letter name, the keyword, then the sound:

a - apple - /ă/


Do not hesitate to use the vocabulary words, short vowels and consonants.

Your child is aware of their meaning as I use these terms in class.

A a	apple	/ă/
B b	bat	/b/
C c	cat	/k/
D d	dog	/d/
E e	Ed	/ě/
F f	fan	/f/
G g	game	/g/
H h	hat	/h/
I i	itch	/i/
J j	jug	/j/
K k	kite	/k/
L l	lamp	/l/
M m	man	/m/
N n	nut	/n/
O o	octopus	/ō/
P p	pan	/p/
Qu qu	queen	/kw/
R r	rat	/r/
S s	snake	/s/
T t	top	/t/
U u	up	/ü/
V v	van	/v/
W w	wind	/w/
X x	fox	/ks/
Y y	yellow	/y/
Z z	zebra	/z/


Fundations® Consonants

b



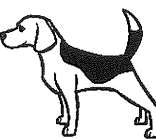
bat /b/

c




cat /k/

d



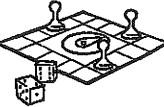
dog /d/

f




fun /f/

g




game /g/

h




hat /h/

j




jug /j/

k




kite /k/

l




lamp /l/

m




man /m/

n



nut /n/

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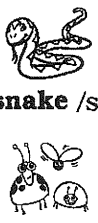
queen /kw/

r




rat /r/

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snake /s/
bugs /z/

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top /t/

v



van /v/

w




wind /w/

x




fox /ks/

y



yellow /y/

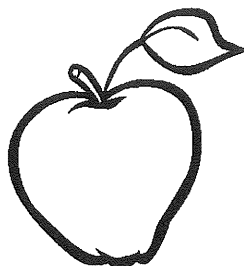
z



zebra /z/

Fundations® Short Vowels

a



apple

/ă/

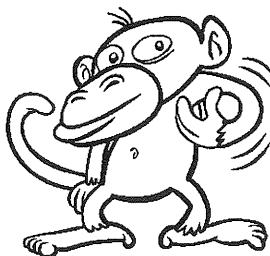
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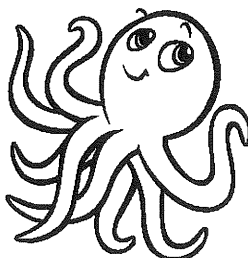
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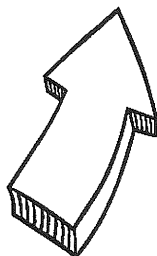
o



octopus

/ŏ/

u



up

/ŭ/

Fundations® Trick Words

a	the	and
is	his	of

→ **Cut words into flashcards. 1.** Each night, help your child **read** all Trick Words. **2.** Have your child **trace** each new Trick Word with his or her finger and **spell** it aloud; and **3.** Cover up the Trick Word and have your child write it with his or her finger on the table while naming each letter.



Fundations® Wilson Writing Grid

The writing grid consists of 15 rows. Each row is defined by three horizontal lines: a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. To the left of each row is a small cartoon illustration. The illustrations are: a cloud with a face, a bird, a frog, and a lizard, alternating in a repeating pattern.

Please continue to practice the writing of the alphabet while you work on the new activities. You can make copies of this Writing Grid to use throughout the year, or you can laminate this sheet so that your child can use a thin dry-erase marker.