

# ORBITING PHONICS LAUNCH AT HOME

Our classroom is currently using Pioneer Valley Books Phonics Launch lessons to build a strong foundation in phonemic awareness, phonics, reading, and writing. This resource provides activity ideas to support this work at home and reinforce new and review concepts.

<p><b>Current Phonics Focus:</b></p>	<p><b>Activity (Choose ____):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read the Word</li> <li>• Scavenger Hunt</li> <li>• Vocabulary Foldable</li> <li>• Write a Sentence</li> <li>• Write a Story</li> <li>• Write and Check</li> <li>• _____</li> <li>• _____</li> <li>• _____</li> <li>• _____</li> </ul>
<p><b>Review Phonics Focus:</b></p>	
<p><b>Comprehension and Fluency:</b></p> <p><b>Digital Reader:</b></p>	<p><b>Digital Reader Activity (Choose ____):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reread</li> <li>• Word Study Activity</li> <li>• Write a Retell</li> <li>• Facts Learned</li> </ul>

# ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS

- **Digital Reader Word Study Activity:** Each story has a word study activity included with it on the Digital Reader. Have your child complete the activity before or after they reread the story.
- **Facts Learned (nonfiction):** After your child has reread the nonfiction book, have them write 3–5 facts they learned about the topic. Encourage them to use at least one word with the target phonic element.
- **Read the Word:** You can choose to have your child read the words listed on this paper, or you can write the words on index cards and have them read those. If your child is having trouble, remind them to say the sounds they see and blend the sounds together to read the word.
- **Reread:** Have your child read the story to you. Listen for them to read the words accurately, smoothly, and with expression.
- **Scavenger Hunt:** Using old magazines or newspapers, have your child search to find any words that have the target phonic element or sight words and circle or highlight them. They can also search for images that have the target phonic element sound.
- **Vocabulary Activity Sheet:** Have your student complete the corresponding Vocabulary Activity sheet by following the directions listed for each activity (teacher provided).
- **Vocabulary Foldable:** In this activity, your student will select one word listed in the vocabulary or glossary on page 12. Have them fold their paper into four parts. In the first square, they will write the word. Encourage them to write a synonym or antonym if applicable. Then, in a second square, they will draw a picture of the word. In a different square, they will write a brief definition of the word. In the final square, they will write a sentence containing the word.
- **Write a Retell (fiction):** After your child has reread the story, have them write to retell the story. They can choose to write about the Problem and Solution or the Beginning, Middle, and End. Encourage them to use at least one word with the target phonic element and one word from the vocabulary or glossary list.
- **Write a Sentence:** Have your child create 3–5 sentences using the words on the word list or some they come up with on their own. Remind them that the sentences can be serious or silly, but they have to make sense. When your child is finished, have them go back and circle the words that have the phonic element.
- **Write a Story:** Have your child list as many words as they can that contain the target phonic element. They can choose words from the word list or come up with some on their own. Have them use those words to write a short story. Encourage your child to be creative. The story can be funny, scary, serious, or action-packed.
- **Write and Check:** Have your child pick a word from the list and then cover the word and write it. Then have them check the word to see if they wrote it correctly. Repeat this activity with a few words from the list. Remind them to say the word slowly to hear each sound as they write the word.

# DIRECTIONS

This resource provides activity ideas to support your class phonics instruction at home and reinforce new and review concepts. After introducing the new phonics focus, fill out and copy this sheet for each student to take home. Be sure to print out the Phonics Launch at Home and Activity Descriptions pages, front and back, for parents to reference. See the directions below, including the completed example, for tips on completing this resource.

- 1. Current Phonics Focus:** Write the current phonics focus. Then list 5–7 words that contain the phonics focus.
- 2. Review Phonics Focus:** Write the review phonics focus you would like to target. Keep in mind, you may choose to review more than one. Then list 5–7 words that contain those review phonic elements.
- 3. Comprehension and Fluency:** If you have the Digital Reader, assign the Phonics Storybook to your classroom. Record the title of the Phonics Storybook on the Phonics Launch at Home resource.

**Assigning Activities:** You may choose to highlight activities you want students to complete at home, or you may allow students and parents to choose. If giving students and parents the option to choose, be sure to indicate the number of activities you would like them to complete.