

Dear Families and Caregivers,

During our Phonics Launch lessons, we are learning:

- How to read and spell words with more complex vowel-*r* combinations (words with a vowel sound that is changed when it's followed by the letter *r*): for example, *share*, *chair*, *roar*, and *store*.
- How to read and spell words with more complex vowel teams (two, three, or four letters that together spell one sound): for example, *light*, *sleigh*, *chief*, and *spread*.
- How to read and spell words with complex spelling patterns, three letter blends, and less common consonant sounds: for example, *whisper*, *phone*, *circus*, *giant*, and *judge*.
- How to read and spell words with common prefixes and suffixes: for example, *biggest*, *hopeful*, and *unhappy*.
- How to use common prefixes and suffixes to determine the meaning of words.
- How to read and spell multisyllable words by breaking them apart by syllable: for example, *interest* (*in-ter-est*).

Here are some activities for you to do to help reinforce your child's new learning and review what we have worked on previously.

- **Reread:** Your child will be getting a Phonics Storybook to reread. The Phonics Storybook may be the physical book or a book to read on the Digital Reader. Have your child read the story to you. Listen for them to read the words accurately, smoothly, and with expression.
- **Scavenger Hunt:** Using 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. Your child can also search for images that have the target phonic element sound.
- **Four Square:** In this activity, your child will draw pictures of words that contain the target phonic element. If they are practicing the prefix *un-*, they could draw a sad face for *unhappy*. Then have your child write the word to label what they drew. You may also choose to have them write a definition of 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.
- **Facts Learned (nonfiction):** After your child has reread the nonfiction book, have them write three to five facts they learned about the topic. Encourage them to use at least one word with the target phonic element.