Helping Your Child with their Weekly Spelling

This is your child’s spelling book. Each week they will come home with a new list of spelling words that are linked to the phoneme (sound) we are studying in class for the week. They will be tested on these words in class on Friday mornings. Here are some things you can do at home with your children to help them learn their weekly spelling words. These activities can be done in the spelling book.

- Help your child write the spelling words into their spelling books in alphabetical order.
- Have your child draw pictures for each of the spelling words. Have them write the word below the picture. Take all the pictures and create a spelling reference book over the course of the year.
- Create a word search with your child’s spelling words. You can do this by making a grid of 10 squares by 10 squares, writing the spelling words in the grid, then filling up the other squares with random letters. Keep a list of your child’s spelling words nearby for them to reference while doing the word search.
- Together, think of ways to remember the words. For example, You HEAR with your EAR; He will be a FRIEND until the END; The ELEPHANT ate an ANT, that is why he has an ANT in him. These types of memorization tricks are called mnemonics.
- Have your children write a story using as many of their spelling words as possible. Have them illustrate their stories.
- Make a concentration game out of the spelling words and play this game with your children.
- Together, use Scrabble tiles to spell the words.
- When studying spelling, encourage your child to use the “Look, Cover, Write, Check” method. Take a piece of paper and fold it into four columns. Label the columns. Have your child write the spelling list in the “Look” column. They should then look at each word, and say the letters to remember how the word looks. Next, have them cover the words by folding the “Look” column over to the “Cover” column. Have your children write the word down in the “Write” column (from memory) and then check to see if they were correct by looking at the original word. They should rewrite the word in the “Check” column. You may want to underline the letters your children originally missed with red. Do this for the entire spelling list. Even if your child spells every word incorrectly at first, praise them for their efforts and encourage them to keep trying. You want your children to stay confident during this exercise so they don’t give up!