

Dear Family:

I have a lot to share this week. The students are becoming good readers and quite good spellers, and thank you for your help.

Once again, in Unit 10 a new syllable type is introduced. This new syllable type is called the “**D**” *syllable* because it contains a double vowel combination, two vowels next to one another such as **ai** in the word **bait**. This syllable is marked:

bait
d

There are several of these vowel combinations in the “D” syllable, but in this Unit we will be working on the **ai** and **ay** combination.

ai - bait - /ā/ **ay - play - /ā/**

These sounds were introduced earlier in the year, but now we will focus on them in more detail for both reading and spelling.

Reading this new syllable type will not be as difficult as the spelling. Spelling will be a challenge for this syllable type just as it was in the r-controlled syllable. The long sound /ā/ is found in three types of syllables: the vowel-consonant-e, the open, and the “D” syllable. Therefore, your child will need to make decisions as to what option to select when spelling a word. Some parents have asked about electronic spell checkers. These can be used as well as a dictionary in order to determine the correct spelling whenever a word has options. With either, you may help your child determine the correct option.

Please let me know if your child is having difficulty with this work.

Sincerely,





Do the "Read, Write and Mark" Activity

Have your child read the following words, copy them on the line and mark up the syllable.

pray pray brain _____
d

waist _____ stay _____

braid _____ day _____

train _____ bait _____

gray _____ clay _____

paint _____ maid _____

ray _____ pain _____

grain _____ tray _____

pay _____ hay _____

faint _____ raid _____



Do the “Find the Syllable Type” Activity

Have your child circle the words containing a double vowel syllable and cross out any word that does not have a double vowel syllable.

grain	day	give
braid	waited	prayer
orbit	maze	brain
staying	faint	clay
gold	tardy	plain

Have your child write the double vowel syllable words from above on the lines below and mark them up.

grain	_____
d	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____



Do the "Pick the Right Vowel Team" Activity

Have your child select a vowel combination from the top of each box to form real words. Have your child write the letters on the lines. Use a dictionary as needed. Read the words.

ai or ay

Sund____
 f____nt
 subw____

ai or ay

d____sy
 rem____n
 spr____

ai or ay

tr____l
 runw____
 p____nting

ai or ay

del____
 pl____
 afr____d

Have your child write the words from above on the lines below. Read the words.

ai words

ay words

WEEK 1

great

country

away

WEEK 2

America

school

thought

→ **Cut words into flashcards.** 1. Each night, help your child **read** all Trick Words from previous units, as well as these. 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.

Writing Grid for Word and Sentence Homework

Review Words

1 2

3 4

Current Words

1 2

3 4

Trick Words

5 1

2 3

4 5

Sentence

1