

Dear Family:

Units 10 through 16 all work with the new vowel digraph syllable type, or “D” syllable type. In Unit 11 we will focus on the **long e sound**. The three sounds previously introduced will be our focus:

ee - jeep - /ē/

ea - eat - /ē/

ey - key - /ē/

The **ea** vowel combination also has the sounds /ĕ/ as in **bread**, and /ā/ as in **steak**, but these are less common and will not be studied at this time.

Just as before, the reading is much easier than the spelling. Therefore, the spelling option procedure will need to be practiced. In this Unit I will introduce the various spellings of /e/ such as **ee** in **jeep**, **ea** in **eat**, and **ey** in **key**. Your child already knows that **e** has the long sound in the vowel-consonant-e syllable (as in **Pete**) and in the open syllable (as in **me** and **baby**). In the beginning or middle of a syllable, the most common spelling choices are **ee**, **ea** or **e-e** (e-consonant-e). At the end of a word, the most common spelling options are **y** or **ey**.

Perhaps a trip to the library will encourage your child to read. Some science books that may be of interest are:

Our Solar System by Seymour Simon (Morrow Junior Books, 1992)

Electricity by Steve Parker (Dorling Kindersley, 1992)

Pyramid by James Putnam (Dorling Kindersley, 1994)

Also, a game such as **Boggle Junior** will promote spelling and word recognition. It will take several exposures to words before your child is secure with both the reading and spelling. Thank you for your help at home.

Sincerely,





Homework Guide

Follow These 5 Steps:

1. Dictate the word or sentence.
2. Have your child repeat it.
3. Have your child write it.
4. Read the word or sentence again and have your child proofread it carefully.
5. Check his/her work.

WEEK 1

Dictate the words and sentence to your child following the 5 steps listed above.

On Monday Dictate	Review Words	→	stir	lark	live	banged
On Tuesday Dictate	Current Words	→	meat	sleep	key	speed beard
On Wednesday Dictate	Trick Words	→	too	many	school	another son
On Thursday Dictate	Sentence	→	Jim ate all the meat on his plate.			

WEEK 2

Dictate the words and sentence to your child following the 5 steps listed above.

On Monday Dictate	Review Words	→	Thursday	boxcar	fuse	catfish
On Tuesday Dictate	Current Words	→	kidney	thirteen	valley	beaver turkey
On Wednesday Dictate	Trick Words	→	breakfast	should	circle	head does
On Thursday Dictate	Sentence	→	They will clean the chimney next week.			

