

# A Parent's Guide to Weekly Phonics Homework



Dear 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Parents,

Homework is a very important aspect of learning for your child. The First Grade team at PPES is using Letterland as our primary resource for teaching spelling and phonics. The Letterland program includes specific homework assignments for four days of every five day study unit. This homework uses the same activities each week but with different words and sentences. A Unit Word List will be sent home each week and the students will write their assignments in their agendas. All assignments are due on Friday of each week. This guide provides more information about each day's assignment.

**Day 1-Read the Words:** Have your child read their circled words and sentences to you two times. Sign on the 'Parent' line on the Homework page when your child finishes reading to you.

**Day 2-Look-Say-Cover-Write-Check:** Children practice writing the ten circled New Words from List A, B, or C and the Tricky Words. They use the Look-Say-Cover-Write-Check page. Children copy their words into the first column of the page. 1) They look at the first word and say it. 2) They cover it up and write it. 3) They check to see if they have written it correctly. 4) They cover it and write it again. Finally they check the word again. They do the same with each word. If they make a mistake, they mark through them, look at the correct spelling again, and write the word on the back of the page.

## Look-Say-Cover-Write-Check

1. Copy the New Words (List A or B or C) and the Tricky Words in column 1.
2. Look at the word and say it, then cover it or fold the page back.
3. Write the word in column 2.
4. Check to see if the word is correct.
5. Cover columns 1 and 2 and write and check again using column 3.
6. If a word is missed, mark it out and try again. Use the back of your page if needed.

1 Look-Say	2 Write	3 Write again

importantly, encourage your child to write interesting sentences with descriptive and active words. Let him or her attempt to spell by listening to the sounds in words. It's okay to leave any spelling mistakes, but if you wish you could help your child to correct any errors. We will work towards more and more correct spelling as the year advances.

**Day 4-Practice Test:** Give your child a practice spelling test. Call out the circled List Words and New Sentences and have your child write them. Call out a few Review words as well. If children miss words, have them practice those words using the Look-Say-Cover-Write-Check method as they did on Day 2.

These directions, weekly word lists, and the Look-Say-Cover-Write-Check paper can be found on each teacher's Weebly. Please let me know if you have any questions about these homework assignments or any other aspect of our classroom. Thank you for supporting your child's learning.

Sincerely,  
The First Grade Team  
PPES

## Application vs. Memorization

It is important to know that the focus of the program is on application of sound-spelling connections NOT memorizing the spelling of specific words. For example, if your child is studying the "-at word family", he/she should be able to apply their knowledge to all words using -at, not just those memorized that week. Please note, some words on the weekly spelling test will NOT be on your child's Unit Word List. This is to assess your child's ability to apply the spelling pattern to unfamiliar words.