

Dear Family Member,

In this unit, students will learn new spelling patterns, abbreviations, and idioms, and they will review affixes, final stable syllables, and compound words.

What will my student learn?

Students will learn the new spelling patterns *igh* as in *weight* and *ough* as in *bought*. They will review final stable syllables and compound words to practice breaking down longer words into manageable parts. Students will also review affixes *im-*, *in-*, *pre-*, *-ness*, *-y*, and *-ful*, which can change the meaning of base words. Students will then learn new abbreviations and idioms. Abbreviations shorten words, and idioms are phrases or expressions that have a figurative meaning different from the literal meaning of the words. Students will practice reading with the Reader, *Sam's Musical Journey*, about a boy named Sam who loves music. The Reader details the challenges Sam faces and overcomes as he learns to play the piano and ultimately performs at a school talent show. The story demonstrates the rewards of perseverance and the joy of sharing a love of music with others.

Additional Practice

Tricky Words					
<i>brilliant</i>	<i>journey</i>	<i>technique</i>	<i>rhythm</i>	<i>language</i>	<i>distinguishing</i>
<i>doubting</i>	<i>conquer</i>	<i>natural</i>	<i>annual</i>	<i>routines</i>	

Students can practice these words each night by doing the following activities:

1. **Word Association:** Ask your student to think of other words related to the Tricky Words. This will help to reinforce their understanding of each word's meaning and usage.
2. **Spell and Define:** Choose a few Tricky Words from the list and ask your student to spell each word aloud. Once they've spelled a word correctly, discuss the meaning of the word together.

Words That Follow a Spelling Pattern				
eigh	<i>eight</i>	<i>sleighed</i>	<i>neighbor</i>	<i>lightweight</i>
ough	<i>enough</i>	<i>doughy</i>	<i>thoughts</i>	<i>coughing</i>

Students can practice these words each night by doing the following activities:

1. **Drawing and Writing:** Invite your student to write a sentence using the focus spelling patterns and then to draw a picture to match their sentence.
2. **Word Challenges:** Challenge your student to find words with the focus spelling patterns in books, in magazines, or around the house. When they identify a word, discuss its spelling and meaning.