

Dear Family Member,

In this unit, students will build their phonological awareness and learn prewriting skills.

### What will my student learn?

Students will begin by building their phonological awareness, meaning that students will learn to hear and identify sounds within their environment. Students will then learn to hear, identify, and count words within phrases and sentences. Building these skills prepares students to pay attention to the sounds they hear within words, which is crucial for spelling and writing. Students will also learn several prewriting skills, such as using a tripod or pincer grip and making simple writing strokes, including circles and lines. These skills will prepare students to properly form and write letters when they are writing words and sentences in later units.

### Additional Practice

| Position Words |              |            |               |
|----------------|--------------|------------|---------------|
| <i>left</i>    | <i>right</i> | <i>top</i> | <i>bottom</i> |

Students will learn the meaning of position words. Learning these position words will support their understanding of reading left to right and top to bottom in later units. Students can practice these words each night by doing the following activities:

1. **Sentence Creation:** Have your student use the position words in sentences. Encourage them to create sentences that demonstrate the meaning of the word and explain its context.
2. **Daily Use:** Encourage your student to use the position words in everyday conversations. Prompt them to incorporate the words into discussions about their day, activities, or observations.

Students can also practice their phonological awareness and prewriting skills at home. Students can practice these skills each night by doing the following activities:

1. **Complete Take-Home Activities:** Your student's teacher will send several prewriting take-home activities to work on together and support your student's progress.
2. **Word Challenges:** Challenge your student to listen and count the number of words as you say simple sentences, such as:

| Simple Sentence Examples     |
|------------------------------|
| <i>The flower grew.</i>      |
| <i>I like hot days.</i>      |
| <i>A cat sat on the rug.</i> |