

Dear Family:

In Unit 12, Foundations® introduces students to words that have more than one syllable. I need you to encourage your child to **scoop** each syllable when the word is read. For example, scoop the word **napkin** into two syllables like this:

n a p k i n

This is key in teaching a child to break down a word into its parts.

I will be working on **multisyllabic words** for the next three weeks.

Some words will be compound words or words that are made up of two parts. Each part can be a word by itself, for example, in the word “**sunfish**” - **sun** is a word and **fish** is a word.

Then, I shall work with words that have two consonants between the two vowels such as in the word “**magnet**” and words with closed and vowel-consonant-e syllables combined, like “**reptile.**”

The spelling procedure used to teach multisyllabic words is very important. (See the next page for these instructions.) Yes, there are several steps, however each is important to help develop the skill of breaking a word down into its parts.

Once again **thank you** for all of your help.

Sincerely,





How to Teach Spelling of Multisyllabic Words

The spelling procedure used to teach **multisyllabic words** is very important. You may want to keep these directions handy while working with your child.

1. Hand your child two blank index cards (or any blank paper).
2. Dictate a word such as **sunfish**.
3. Have your child repeat the word and place a blank index card down for each syllable.

Your child says “**sun**” and puts down one blank card.

Your child says “**fish**” and puts down another blank card.
4. Next, have your child touch the first blank card and spell the first syllable **s - u - n**, then write the syllable saying the letters: “**s - u - n, sun.**”
5. Next, have your child touch the second blank card and spell the second syllable **f - i - s - h**, then write the syllable saying the letters: “**f - i - s - h, fish.**”

Remember to continue reading aloud to your child.

Reading can be hard work for a First Grader. Find some time just to read aloud to your child so that he or she realizes that reading can be for pleasure! Try the books listed below.

Title	Author	Publisher / Date
<i>Charlotte’s Web</i>	White, E.B.	HarperCollins; 1974
<i>A Child’s Garden of Verses</i>	Stevenson, R.L.	HarperCollins; 2011
<i>Fantastic Mr. Fox</i>	Dahl, R.	Alfred A. Knopf; 1970
<i>Homer Price</i>	McCloskey, R.	Penguin; 1976
<i>Mr. Popper’s Penguins</i>	Atwater, R.	Little, Brown Books for Young Readers; 1992
<i>Ramona Quimby, Age 8</i>	Cleary, B.	HarperCollins; 1992
<i>Read-Aloud Rhymes for the Very Young</i>	Prelutsky, J.	Random House Children’s Books; 1986