

Dear Family:

The newest concept that I am teaching the children is one they will use frequently, that of adding a **suffix** (which is an ending) to a **baseword**. For now, the only suffix I am working with is the suffix 's'. For example:

dog - add the suffix 's' = **dogs**

It is important that your child recognizes the suffix. As an exercise, in order to train the brain to separate the suffix **from** the baseword, have your child read the baseword and then say it with the suffix as follows:

pen - pens **map** - maps

To spell a word with a suffix ending, your child hears the entire word "**maps**", but then must be able to separate "**map**" from the suffix 's'.

Therefore, after repeating the word "**maps**" you may ask "**What is the baseword?**" Your child should answer "**map.**" Then tap out /m/ /a/ /p/, say the letters **m - a - p**, then add the suffix 's'. The suffix does not get tapped.

Note that sometimes the suffix 's' has the /z/ sound as in the word **bug - bugs**.

Sincerely,

