Dear Family:

Is your child having a lot of difficulty reading and spelling? If so, please make an appointment to see me because slow and inaccurate reading of words are the best predictors of a possible reading difficulty.

For the next two weeks, I will teach the concept of a ***closed syllable***. A closed syllable ends in a consonant and only has one vowel. The vowel in a closed syllable is short, as in the word **"math"** or **"cat."** The recognition of this word structure will be key as we continue with the program.

To mark a closed syllable, your child has learned to ***scoop*** or ***underline*** the word, put a ***c*** under the scoop to indicate "closed" and a ***breve*** (˘) over the vowel to indicate it is short.

c ă t or m ă t h
c c

Even though all the words have been closed syllables, every once in a while ask, ***"Is this word a closed syllable?"*** and, ***"Why?"***

I will also teach these vowel teams using the Vowel Teams poster: **ai**, **ay**, **ee**, **ea**, **ey**, **oi** and **oy**. Vowel teams are introduced for reference when students are reading throughout the day. These sounds will be learned in more depth for both reading and spelling in Level 2. In the meantime, we will practice the sounds during our Drills Sounds/Warm Up activity in class.

Let me know if you have any concerns.

Sincerely,

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