

Dear Family:

The past few weeks have been busy ones! We have been working on three-sound words, and sentences as well as “trick” words. Thank you for working with your child. Your help reinforces what is being taught in school. Please continue your good work. We are about to begin Unit 3.

In class, I am working on **consonant digraphs**. A consonant digraph is two consonants together that make one sound such as “s” and “h” together make the sound of /**sh**/. Because a consonant digraph makes only **one sound**, they only get **one tap**. For example, the word “**sh o p**” has three taps even though there are four letters because there are only three sounds to the word.

I have been working on the following consonant digraphs:

**sh** - ship - /sh/

**ch** - chin - /ch/

**ck** - sock - /k/

**wh** - whistle - /w/

**th** - thumb - /th/

Your child knows that the sound /**k**/ at the end of a word is usually spelled with the letters “**ck**.”

Homework for the next two weeks will include these consonant digraphs as well as “**qu**” which is referred to as the “buddy letter” because “**q**” always has his buddy “**u**” right next to him in words in the English language.

Sincerely,



ch



chin

/ch/

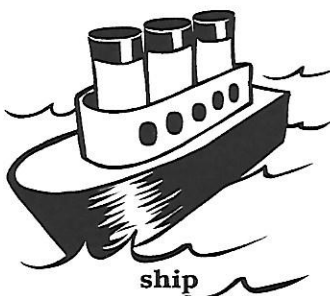
ck



sock

/k/

sh



ship

/sh/

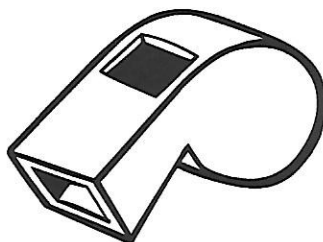
th



thumb

/th/

wh



whistle

/w/

→ Add this page to your child's notebook of sounds.



## Suggested Reading

During the next few weeks, reading to your child at bedtime might be a good way of getting “settled” while at the same time accomplishing many benefits.

The following list of books are excellent ones to read aloud to a First Grade Student.

### Reading aloud...

- familiarizes your child with concepts of print.
- builds your child’s vocabulary.
- introduces your child to different language patterns.
- identifies reading as a pleasurable activity.

Title	Author	Publisher / Date
<i>And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street</i>	Seuss, Dr.	Random House; 1989
<i>Chicken Sunday</i>	Polacco, P.	Puffin; 1992
<i>Fantastic Mr. Fox</i>	Dahl, R.	Alfred A. Knopf; 1970
<i>Horton Hatches the Egg</i>	Seuss, Dr.	Random House; 1940
<i>The Little Engine That Could</i>	Piper, W.	Grosset & Dunlap; 2009
<i>Ming Lo Moves the Mountain</i>	Lobel, A.	Greenwillow Books; 1999
<i>Mr. George Baker</i>	Hest, A.	Candlewick; 2007
<i>My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother</i>	Polacco, P.	Simon & Schuster; 1994
<i>Strega Nona</i>	dePaola, T.	Simon & Schuster; 1975
<i>Tikki Tikki Tembo</i>	Mosel, A.	Lectorum Publications; 1998