Dear Family:

In Fundations Unit 13, your child will learn all about the sounds made by the **ch** (as in **chorus**) and **ph** (as in **phone**) digraphs. As with all digraphs, these two letters make one sound. These digraphs can be marked by underlining them:

p<u>h</u>ase        <u>ch</u>ords

I will also be teaching students about some letters that are silent when combined with certain letters. These are called **silent letter combinations** and they are as follows:

wr - /r/   (**w** is silent)
rh - /r/   (**h** is silent)       **/r/**

gn - /n/   (**g** is silent)
kn - /n/   (**k** is silent)       **/n/**

mn - /m/ (**n** is silent)
mb - /m/ (**b** is silent)       **/m/**

gh - /g/   (**h** is silent)       **/g/**

To mark these, students simply underline the **silent letter combination** and cross out the silent letter:

<u>kn</u> e e l

One good way to help your child remember the sounds of these silent letter combinations is by telling them that two of these letter combinations say **/r/**, two say **/n/**, two say **/m/** and one says **/g/**.

Students will continue to develop their dictionary and vocabulary skills. They have learned much about words so keep up the great work at home!

Sincerely,

The 3rd Grade Teachers

**Skill Words:**
The skill words below may not be the tested words. These words reflect the skills/patterns taught in this unit. Our focus is on learning word patterns, not memorizing specific words.

**Sound Alike Words:**
Your child should be able to read and spell **sound alike words** from memory in order to match spelling with meaning.

**Trick Words:**
Your child should be able to read and spell **trick words** from memory. Trick words do not follow usual spelling patterns, they are "tricky" and need to be memorized.

| Week 1: | Week 2: |
|---|---|
| **Skill Words:** | **Skill Words:** |
| photograph | ghostly |
| trophy | know |
| alphabet | wreck |
| phone | rhinestone |
| dolphin | crumb |
| echo | autumn |
| chrome | wrist |
| ache | gnat |
| chorus | plumber |
| anchor | knickers |

**Sound Alike Words:**
knew/new   knight/night

**Sound Alike Words:**
knows/nose

**Trick Words:**
always

**Trick Words:**
laugh

**Sentence:**
When I recite a sound you echo it.

**Sentence:**
We're adding up that first column of numbers.

# Cursive Connectives Practice Review Worksheet

**Practice These Connectives!** This worksheet provides practice with connecting cursive letters that have been taught in **previous Units**. These clusters are for practice and may not be real words. Practice each set of connectives several times and be sure to leave a space between each set as shown in the example on line 1.

*Sosa Sosa*

*Janet*

*Istanbul*

*South America*

*Japan*

*Italy*

*Sarah*

*Jordan*

Forward Slant, most commonly used by right-handed students.

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*Sosa Sosa*

*Janet*

*Istanbul*

*South America*

*Japan*

*Italy*

*Sarah*

*Jordan*

Backward Slant, most commonly used by left-handed students.

## Do the "New Sound" Activity

Have your child read the words and underline the **ch** in each one. Write **/k/** above the **ch** to indicate the sound and then write the words on the lines below.

/k/
<u>Ch</u>ris              scheme*              stomach*

technical           orchid               school

chrome             chorus*              chemical

schedule*          echo*                ache*

_____Chris_____    _____    _____

_____    _____    _____

_____    _____    _____

_____    _____    _____

Select two of the starred words and construct a sentence that demonstrates its meaning.

1  _____

   _____

2  _____

   _____

# Do the "New Sound" Activity

Have your child read the words and underline the **ph** for the /f/ sound. Then, write the words with the **ph** option for /f/ on the lines below.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| p̲h̲ony | graph* | dolphin |
| Ralph | flagpole | female |
| atmosphere* | photograph* | telephone |
| French | confuse | define |
| geography* | alphabet* | profile |

_____phony_____    _____    _____

_____    _____    _____

_____    _____    _____

Select two of the starred words and construct a sentence that demonstrates its meaning.

1 _____

_____

2 _____

_____

## Guess Which One

Read the sentence(s). Write the correct Sound Alike Word from the box on the lines below.

| knew | new | night | knight |

1   Shawn _____ the shirt was wrinkled, but he decided to wear it any way.

2   We just won the basketball game and now I have a _____ trophy.

3   It was so bright last _____ because of the huge moon.

4   She _____ dolphins were smart, but she didn't know they could communicate with whistles.

5   The brave _____ saved the princess in the castle.

## Sentence Creation

Create one sentence for each Sound Alike Word. The sentence should use the word correctly *and* demonstrate the meaning of the word.

1   _____

_____

2   _____

_____

3   _____

_____

4   _____

_____

## Do the "Silent Letters" Activity

Have your child cross out the silent letter(s) in each word below and read the words.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| g̶host | wrestle | wrench |
| wrist | ghost | knot |
| knight | crumb | knuckle |
| wrong | rhinstone | spaghetti |
| wrinkle | knives | column |

## Do the "Silent Letter Category" Activity

Have your child write the words from above in the correct boxes. Cross out the silent letters.

| **rh** | **gh** | **wr** |
|---|---|---|
| | | |

| **mb** | **kn** | **mn** |
|---|---|---|
| | | |

Name: _____    Date: _____

## Guess Which One

Read the sentence(s). Write the correct Sound Alike Word from the box on the lines below.

| knows | nose |
|-------|------|

1   Phillip _____ many words in German.

2   My grandma _____ how to make a great rhubarb pie.

3   Your _____ is red! Is it very cold today?

4   Chris _____ that Ralph likes magic, so they went to a show.

5   Rose has a stomach ache and a runny _____.

## Sentence Creation

Create one sentence for each Sound Alike Word. The sentence should use the word correctly *and* demonstrate the meaning of the word.

1   _____

    _____

2   _____

    _____