

Dear Family:

Foundations Unit 3 will take approximately one week to reach mastery. This Unit works on **closed syllable exceptions**. The vowel in a closed syllable usually has a short vowel sound like **ŭ** in the word **up**. However, there are five exceptions to this rule. It is helpful to stress the meaning of the word **exception** to your child (something that does not follow the rule). It is important for your child to be able to quickly identify these exceptions:

/īd/ as in **child**

/īnd/ as in **kind**

/ōld/ as in **cold**

/ōlt/ as in **colt**

/ōst/ as in **post**

They are exceptions because the vowel has a **long** sound (it says its name) rather than a short vowel sound. We mark them like this:

cōld



Also in this Unit, I will teach some important words that students should memorize. We call these **Trick Words** because most of them cannot be sounded out.

Lastly, I will teach 2 new sounds. Your child will learn the keywords for these now, but we will still study them for reading and spelling in more detail later in the year.

oi says /oi/ as in **coin**

oy says /oi/ as in **boy**

There are activities to help reinforce these concepts. Thank you for your help and be sure to have fun! Please write down any questions you might have for me and I shall get back to you.

Sincerely,

