

Dear Parents,

In the following information, you will see the Monday homework, Making Words, explained. This homework **should** be worked on with an adult or an older sibling who has already become a fluent reader.

Making Words is an activity that helps children become good spellers and word decoders. The lessons are like puzzles for students to solve with your help. Children enjoy cutting out the letters and arranging them to see that by changing just one letter, adding one letter, or moving the letters around, they have made a completely new word! They also like the puzzle of figuring out the secret word, which is made by using all the letters.

Here are the steps needed for each lesson:

1. Cut the letters on the top section of the page apart. Write the capital letter on the back, in case you need it.
2. The area on the left side of the sheet has lines for writing the words after they have been made. The small lines indicate how many letters are needed to make the word. The student should make the word with his/her letters and then write the letters on the appropriate lines.
3. Use the word lists below to identify the words for each lesson. You may need to help your child what words to spell from their letters. Here are some sample hints and sentences you might give:
 - Change just the first letter to spell...
 - Add just one letter to spell...
 - Start over. If you move the letters in this word around, these same letters can spell... (This is indicated by ___ / ___ .)
 - I will give you a minute to try to guess the secret word and then I will give you some clues.
4. The area on the right side of the sheet has the rhyming patterns the child will sort. The pattern (vowel to the end of the word) is already printed. The child's job is to add the beginning sound.
5. At the bottom of the sheet, there are two sentences with a missing word in each. The missing word uses one of the rhyming patterns from the right side of the sheet. The beginning letter(s) are provided and the child must select the correct rhyming pattern to make a word that makes sense in the sentence.

Let's try a lesson...

a	i	c	f	f	r	t
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1. Make Words

____ ____
 ____ ____
 ____ ____
 ____ ____ ____
 ____ ____ ____
 ____ ____ ____
 ____ ____ ____
 ____ ____ ____ ____
 ____ ____ ____ ____ ____
 ____ ____ ____ ____ ____

2. Sort

____at ____ar
 ____at ____ar
 ____at

 ____aft
 ____ ____aft

3. Transfer

1. I can open that j_____ .
2. A b_____ lived in the barn.

Hints and Answers

- Use 2 letters to spell the word **if**. (We will go **if** it doesn't rain.)
- Change 1 letter to spell **it**. (**I**t looks like **it** is going to rain.)
- Change 1 letter to spell **at**. (Be ready to go **at** 2:00.)
- Add 1 letter to spell **rat**. (The **rat** ran away.)
- Change 1 letter to spell **fat**. (It was a **fat** rat.)
- Change 1 letter to spell **far**. (Do you think it ran **far** away?)
- Change 1 letter to spell **car**. (Let's take a drive in the **car**.)
- Use 2 letters to spell the word **raft**. (We floated down the river on a **raft**.)
- Add 1 letter to spell **craft**. (She learned the **craft** of sewing from her mom.)
- ★ Use all your letters to spell the secret word. Give your child some thinking time then give a clue. (The busy street had a lot of **traffic**.)

Answer Sheet

Lesson

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1	ran	ban	can	car	cab	crab	bran / barn	ranch	branch
2	an	as	ask	ban	lab	slab	sank	bank	blanks
3	as	at	cat	fat	fast	cast	cart	raft	crafts
4	at	art	act / cat		hat	chat	cast	cart	charts
5	is	sir	ski	rib	crib	sick	risk	brisk	bricks
6	is	it	sit	hit	hits / this		with	itch	switch
7	is	in	ink	rink	sink / skin		kiss	hiss	shrinks
8	is	his	him	hip	rip	rim	sip	imp	shrimp
9	it	is	his	hit	sit	sir	stir	this	shirts
10	so	sob	cob	lob	slob	sock	lock	locks	blocks
11	no	so	son	ton / not		hot	shot / host		months
12	us	bus / sub		rub	sun	bun	run	runs	burns
13	at	sat	tag	age	eat	seat / east		gate	gates / stage
14	at	rat / art		are	ate	ace	race	rate	crate / trace
15	at	ate	are	cat	hat	hate	rate	crate	catcher
16	let	vet	save	late	slate	slave	later / alert / alter		travels
17	in	pin	pan	ran	rain	pain	spin	span	sprain
18	can	ran	rain	gain	grain	train	acting	caring / racing	
19	say	stay	gain	sing	sting	stain / satin		giants	staying
20	lap	yap / pay		day	lay	led	lead	play	played