

Spelling Newsletter

for Students and Their Families

Getting Started

This year your child is using *Houghton Mifflin Spelling and Vocabulary*. The authors of this program have identified the words essential to writing and organized those words according to spelling patterns and word parts. This organization will help your child learn to spell featured words as well as other words with similar patterns and word parts.

In the first four units of this book, your child learned about spelling patterns for the vowel sounds heard in *afraid* and *past*, in *gleam* and *member*, in *crime* and *skill*, and in *wrote* and *odd*. The fifth unit introduced homophones, or words that sound the same but have different spellings and meanings (such as *wait* and *weight*).

Word Lists

Your child has been studying the words below, as well as other words with similar sounds and spelling patterns.

UNIT 1	UNIT 2	UNIT 3	UNIT 4	UNIT 5
afraid	member	skill	wrote	wait
past	gleam	crime	fellow	weight
drain	freedom	grind	coast	peek
says	steam	flight	odd	peak
break	believe	build	owe	heal
sale	speck	ditch	host	sent
crayon	cheap	decide	shock	scent
fact	greed	sigh	remote	cent
stale	reason	remind	boast	miner
steak	chief	built	globe	minor

Family Activity

Play Simon Says with your child, using the Spelling Words above. You say a word and your child spells it, but only if you say, "Simon Says" first. Adapt the game for the homophones by spelling a word yourself: "Simon says, 'Spell a homophone for the word *p-e-e-k*.'" Your child may spell the words aloud or write them down.