How to make: Turn the bulletin board into "The Spelling Express." Collect flat boxes and the lids from round plastic containers to use in creating five train cars as shown. (Forms can be made from construction paper as well.) Label each car with the title of a unit in the cycle. Attach pockets to the cars, and label each pocket with a spelling pattern studied in that unit. Make a train track from construction paper and tack the car for Unit 13 to the bulletin board. Write each Unit 13 Basic Word on an index card, and place the cards in an envelope, labeled as shown, at the bottom of the bulletin board. As students study each new unit, attach the other cars to the train with a paper chain. Add the new Basic Words to the envelope. As an alternative, you may wish to use the bulletin board for review of the cycle by putting up all of the train cars and words at once.

How to use: Have students sort the words into the pockets, showing the appropriate spelling pattern. You may want to include an envelope of blank cards for students to write and sort additional words that they come across in their reading.