

To the family of _____

Our class is beginning a new program, *SRA Phonics*. It is designed to help your child with sounds, letters, and words. These skills are important as your child continues the process of learning to read.

Our first units are review units. Our class will review the names and sounds of the consonants and the vowels. Below are some fun things you can do at home to reinforce what is being taught at school.

1. **Short or Long?** You can play this game anywhere—in the kitchen, in the supermarket, while relaxing in front of TV.

Pick out something that has a one-syllable name and a short or long vowel sound. For instance, if you are in the kitchen you might choose **pan, shelf, stove, knife, tub, or dish**. Say to your child: **I see a "pan". Is it short or long?** (Short a)

Set a lively pace. Keep score and arrange some kind of reward for your child at the end of the game.

2. **I See a Letter** Children love this game which can be played while the family is driving down city streets or walking through a shopping mall. The goal is to find the alphabet letters—in sequence—on signs, billboards, T Shirts, bumper stickers, etc..

The first child who spots an **A** calls out: "I see an **A**" and points to it. If the child is correct, the group goes on to look for a **B**, and so on. The one with the most correct calls, wins the game.

Sincerely,