**Suggested Activities for Parents with Word Work**

* Encourage the student to write at home for a variety of purposes- lists, letters, messages, etc.
* Encourage the student to read a variety of books that will introduce new words to build vocabulary
* Search for and cut out words in magazines or newspapers that contain a spelling pattern (-ake, -ick, -at)
* Search for example of contractions, words that have “silent e”, prefixes, suffixes, etc.
* Reinforce the strategic work done in school. When a child is trying to spell a new word you may say...
  + What sounds do you hear? (CVC or little words)
  + Say it slowly (keep your voice on) and write down the sounds you hear)
  + What chunks do you hear?
  + Do you know another word that sounds like that word?
  + Try writing the word two ways and pick the way that looks right (ex. berd/ bird or down/ doun).
* Explore Words
  + Write any smaller words you can see in the word
  + Write any other words that have the same spelling pattern. Check a resource (book or chart) to make sure you are right.
  + Can you add a letter to make a new word?
  + Can you take a letter away to make a new word?
  + Can you change a letter to make a new word?
  + Can you add prefixes or suffixes to any of your words to make a new word?
* Play a family game!
  + Scrabble, Boggle, Bananagrams, Mad Libs, Crossword Puzzles, Seek and Find, Wheel of Fortune, Words with Friends
* Websites:
  + Puzzlemaker.com yourdictionary.com spellingbeethegame.com wordtwist.com
  + Bookworm.com kidspell.com spellingcity.com