



Dear Families,

We are getting ready to begin our next unit of study in reading workshop. This unit will focus on strategies that readers need to figure out the "tricky" words in their books. Your child will be working on some of these strategies at school. Please encourage your child to continue to use these strategies at home as they read. Keep in mind, depending on your child's reading level he or she will use different strategies that meet his or her needs to figure out the unknown words. Below is list of reading strategies:

- **One to one matching (pointing)**
- **Use pictures to help figure out words**
- **Look for a chunk or sound you know**
- **Look for a word you know (sight words)**
- **Notice a pattern in the text**
- **Look at all letter sounds in the word**
- **Asking, Does it sound right?**
- **Asking, Does it look right?**
- **Think, What could it say? What would make sense here?**
- **Go back and reread if it doesn't make sense**
- **Does it sound like I'm talking? (Fluency)**
- **Am I paying attention to punctuation? (Expression)**
- **Can I make a picture in my mind? (Visualizing)**
- **Can I think about the ideas which are not directly stated? (Inferring)**
- **Can I make any connections?**
- **Am I self-correcting?**
- **Do I use all my strategies when I get stuck?**

We hope these listed strategies give you some suggestions to help your child as he or she is tackling some "tricky" words during reading. Most importantly, enjoy the quality time reading with your child!

Sincerely,  
The First Grade Teachers