

Dates: _____



Grade 3: Weekly Phonics Focus Lesson 4

In our classroom this week, we are reviewing how to read and spell words with vowel-r patterns e-r, i-r, and u-r. Here are the letters and patterns to practice this week:

Consonants	b, c, d, f, g, h, j, k, l, m, n, p, q, r, s, t, v, w, x, z y at the beginning of a word
Vowels	a, e, i, o, u y at the end of a word
Closed Syllables	Closed syllable words have 1 vowel letter followed by 1 or more consonants and the vowel sound is short.
Vowel-r Syllables	Vowel-r syllables have 1 vowel sound spelled with 1 or 2 vowels and the consonant r, which affects the way the vowel sound is pronounced. The 3 vowel-r patterns in this lesson are spelled differently but pronounced the same: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The vowel-r patterns <i>e-r</i>, <i>i-r</i>, and <i>u-r</i> spell the /er/ sound, as in the keyword <i>bird</i>.• The most common spelling for /er/ is e-r, followed by i-r, and then u-r.

(**Note:** A letter in slashes, such as /s/, indicates that the letter sound rather than the letter name should be said.)

Here are some examples of words with the patterns we are reviewing:

er		ir		ur	
germ	stern	first	girl	hurt	curb

Below is an activity to practice at home this week. You may also use the activities and questions from the initial **Family Support Letter** to further address your child's success in learning the weekly phonics focus.

Word Sort

Guide your child through this Word Sort by saying, "Let's sort words." Read these steps to your child:

1. Find the vowel in the word.
2. Is the single vowel letter followed by the consonant *r*?
3. Identify the syllable type as vowel-r or closed and say the vowel sound.
4. Read the word and then write it in the correct column below.

shirt	rust	perch	turn	dress	her
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Vowel-r Syllables			Closed Syllables
er	ir	ur	

As you read and write with your child this week, be on the lookout for words with **vowel-r patterns e-r, i-r, and u-r** and **closed syllable** words. Add the pattern words you and your child find to the correct column in the chart above.

Word Sort Answer Key: Vowel-r Syllables: (er) perch, her; (ir) shirt; (ur) turn;
Closed Syllables: rust /ʌ/, dress /ɛ/