

Parent Friendly Orton Directions for Practicing at Home 😊

Using a dry erase board or a piece of paper, you can help your child practice our Orton skills at home!

To Practice Letter Sounds

1. Visual Drill (Seeing the letter and saying the sound that it makes)

Using the Letter Cards, hold up the card and your child will say: *"This is the letter (say letter), (say letter) says (say sound), (say letter) is a (vowel or consonant)."*

Repeat with each letter card.

2. Auditory Drill (Hearing the sound and writing the letter)

Say to your child: *"I say the sound, you say the sound, then you write it."*

(Say sound, child writes sound). Repeat with each letter that you did in the Visual Drill.

To Practice Finger Spelling/Reading Words

1. Finger Spell/Read Words (Reading a Word)

Show your child one of the Orton words from the word list. Together, finger spell the word. Make a fist, then beginning with your thumb, lift one finger for each letter sound in the word.

Example: If the word is "sap"...*"s"* (lift thumb) *"a"* (lift pointer finger) *"p"* (lift middle finger) – three fingers should be up and then close your fist as you blend the word together and say *"sap"*.

2. Finger Spell/Write Words (Hearing a word and spelling it)

Say to your child: *"I say the word, you say the word, we finger spell it, then you write."*

–Say word: *sap*

–Child repeats word: *sap*

–Finger spell it together: *"s" "a" "p"*

–Child writes word on dry erase board or paper

Repeat with any words from the Orton Word List.

Kindergarten– Practice 1–2 words per night.

First Grade– Practice writing 5–6 words each night.

If you were finger spelling the word "sap", this is what it would look like. Say the sound of the letter as you lift each finger. When you have said all three sounds, close your fist as you say the word out loud.

