


# Fundations Level 2 - Unit 1

Dear Family,

Carroll County teachers are providing direct and explicit teaching about “how English works.” The goal is for students to learn word patterns and apply them in reading and spelling. This year we’ll continue using a program called **Fundations®** to teach some important basics of reading and spelling. **It may appear that instruction is slow moving at first, but Fundations® is laying the necessary foundations for your child to be a fluent, independent reader and writer.**

Unit 1 is a review of word study skills. Please refer to the chart below for the skills we will review. Unit 1 will last approximately 2 weeks.

Skill	What is it?	How can you help at home?
<b>Digraph</b>	A consonant digraph is two consonants together that make one sound ( <i>sh, ch, th, wh, ck</i> ). Ex. <u>sh</u> i p	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dictate the word and have your child repeat the word.</li><li>Have your child say each sound of a word while tapping a finger to the thumb – digraphs get one tap. For consonant blends, each consonant gets its own tap. <a href="http://video.carrollk12.org/view/CCPS_ELA_PR_1008_2013">http://video.carrollk12.org/view/CCPS_ELA_PR_1008_2013</a></li><li>Have your child spell the word.</li><li>Have your child underline or find digraphs in words.</li></ul> Example words: Digraphs: <i>chip, math, thud, dash, whip</i> Consonant blends: <i>flip, camp, test, just, grass, swim</i> Digraph blends: <i>lunch, shred, bunch, ranch, shrub</i>
<b>Consonant Blend</b>	A consonant blend is when two consonants are together and each make their own sound. Ex. <u>s</u> <u>t</u> o p The <i>s</i> and the <i>t</i> each make a sound.	
<b>Digraph Blend</b>	A digraph blend is a digraph blended with a consonant. Ex. l <u>u</u> <u>n</u> <u>ch</u> The <i>n</i> and the <i>ch</i> each make a sound.	
<b>Closed Syllables</b>	A closed syllable ends with a consonant(s) and has one vowel. The vowel sound is short. Ex. p <u>a</u> th, m <u>e</u> t, l <u>u</u> mp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dictate the word and have your child repeat the word.</li><li><b>Have your child tap out the word – digraphs get one tap.</b></li><li>Have your child spell the word.</li></ul> Example words: <i>quiz, shrimp, chimp, strap, quack, brunch</i>

For additional practice activities, you may contact your child’s teacher. Remember to **make it FUN!**

## Did you know?

**When you hear /k/ at the beginning of a word:**

- c is most often used when followed by a, o, or u
- k is most often used when followed by e, i, or y

**ck** is used at the end of a one-syllable word, right next to the short vowel (ex. pick, shock)

Sincerely,  
The 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Team