## **Summer Reading Activities**



	First Grade – Activity #2
Title	Word Building
Parent Information	Phonics helps children understand the relationship between letters and sounds such as knowing that the letter b, represents the sound /b/ as in ball. Children with a strong phonological awareness (the ability to hear, identify, and manipulate sounds orally) are ready to begin applying their knowledge to print. Children can practice decoding (blending sounds to read) and encoding (writing sounds to spell).  Decoding should be the number one strategy we teach our early readers and is a critical component to becoming a fluent reader. Word building helps children practice decoding and encoding by applying sound/spelling patterns. Children can use letter cards to build words or use a pencil and paper to write the words.
Objective	Use phonics to build, read, and write words
Time	5-10 minutes
Materials	Letter cards, paper, pencil, word bank
Procedures	If using letter cards, provide the letters needed for the word set (Ex. – a, b, f, g, i, o, and x) or provide paper and pencil.  Say the first word – ox. Say each individual sound - /o/ /x/. Blend the sounds slowly together to make the word – ox. Use the word in a sentence to support vocabulary (Ex. – The ox pulled the heavy cart of hay.)  The child builds the word using the provided letter cards or writes the word and reads it aloud.  Explain that now you will change the word by adding a sound. Repeat the procedures above (Ex. – fox, /f/ /o/ /x/, fox, The fox was sneaking around the hen house.).  The child builds the new word using letter cards or writes the new word under the first to begin a list.  Continue changing one sound in the word to build a new word (Ex. ox, fox, fix, fig, big, bag, bog, box).

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Additional Resources	Visit Reading Rockets:  • Phonics and Decoding
and Information	Visit Scholastic:  • <u>Understanding Phonics</u>