

Dictated Words and Sentences

What are "Dictated Words and Sentences" and why are they important?

"Dictated Words and Sentences" (Bear et al., 1996) help your child practice his knowledge of phonics when writing. By "sounding out" and writing words, your child is strengthening his knowledge of letter/sound relationships and spelling patterns.

How can I use "Dictated Words and Sentences" with my child?

First, dictate words or a sentence using words that contain the sounds and sight words that your child has been practicing. For example, if your child has been working on the vowel combination, ee, you could dictate words such as, geese, meet, creek or the sentence, "The geese meet down by the creek."

As you say the sentence, your child should write the sentence on a piece of paper. Help your child sound out the words by reminding your child to stretch out each word like a rubber band (m-e-e-t). Your child can then hear and write each sound. Check the word or sentence to make sure that your child has spelled the words with the ee pattern correctly. Remember that your child is responsible for spelling correctly only those words that have been introduced to him.