In class we are using the Zoo Phonics program. This program assigns a body signal for each letter of the alphabet. It helps the children remember the sounds for each letter. I am including a picture and description of each body signal so that you will know what your child is doing and you can help them at home. Each day we review the signal and sound for all 26 letters. We then do some more focused work with 1-2 letters each week.

Each week you will find included in their homework 1-2 pages with a letter at the top. These are the letters that we focused on the previous week. Please review the name of the letter, the sound it makes and the body signal for it each evening. On the sheet I would like the children to draw 5-6 pictures that begin with that sound. For instance with the letter Ll they could draw a ladder, lemon, library, lion, lobster, lizard. Have them put the l beside each picture and you can finish printing the word. They can also practice printing the upper and lowercase letter a few times.

The children spent some time this week printing their names. I am working with them to form their letters correctly. We will continue this practice at school but I would also like them to practice each evening at home. I have included a blank sheet of paper with their name on the top for them to use.

Each time we begin a new unit in math I will send home a few sheets explaining what we will be working on. There are lots of ideas to help them practice their math skills at home. These ideas/activities do not need to be all done in a week. It usually takes 4-6 weeks to complete a unit.

Please remember to read to your child each night and record it on the calendar that is in their folder. This reading is part of the required work for the kindergarten program so it is important that you record this in their homework each school night (Monday through Thursday).

Rhyming is another skill that we have been working on. Many children have a beginning understanding of this skill but it is not solid yet. Please continue to work on this. You can incorporate it into your everyday life by asking them to think of words that rhyme with things that you are doing. For instance before you read a book ask them some words that rhyme with book. After a story you can go back and re-read a page and find the words that rhyme. Below is a Sesame Street website that we used this week to work on some rhyming (go to Sesamestreet.org then go to: games, subject, rhyming). There many websites that have fun rhyming games!

<http://www.sesamestreet.org/>

 Remember you can check out classroom news on our website at <http://nsee.nbed.nb.ca/> I will be updating the information on a weekly basis.