

Dear Family:

This should be a fun unit for students. I will be teaching them to read and spell **contractions**. Contractions are the shortened forms of words. The omitted letters are replaced by an apostrophe.

First, we will learn how to reduce two words into a contraction:

**can not = can't**

Second, we will identify the words from which a contraction is made:

**can't = can not**

I will explain that we use contractions because sometimes, it sounds better to put two words together so that they are quicker and easier to say. To make the learning of contractions as easy as possible, I will guide students on the use of apostrophes and explain that apostrophes replace the letters that are taken away in a contraction. Please note that we do not mark up contractions.

Finally, I will teach students some special contractions:

**mustn't    won't    don't    can't    let's    I'm**

For you and your child's reference, I have included a Making Contractions reference page.

Once again, thank you for your help at home.

Sincerely,

