Word Pattern Hunt

Read each word and notice how its letters work.

3.2.F.1 "Students will expand their sight word vocabulary by reading regularly- and irregularly-spelled words in isolation and context with increasing automaticity."

NAME _____ DATE _____

REGULAR SPELLING

The letters and spelling patterns make the sounds you expect. You can use those patterns to read the word.

fish

TRICKY SPELLING

At least one part does not sound the way you expect. Remember that part so you can read the word quickly.

of

1 SORT

8 items

Circle REGULAR or TRICKY for each word, then choose two words and explain how you knew where each belongs.

1.	map	REGULAR TRICKY
2.	sun	REGULAR TRICKY
3.	said	REGULAR TRICKY
4.	picnic	REGULAR TRICKY
5.	does	REGULAR TRICKY
6.	two	REGULAR TRICKY
7.	sunset	REGULAR TRICKY
8.	one	REGULAR TRICKY

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new REGULAR word and one new TRICKY word that are not on this page.

REGULAR _____

TRICKY _____

CHALLENGE

Write a sentence with one new REGULAR word and one new TRICKY word, then underline both words.

ANSWER KEY

Word Pattern Hunt

GRADE 3 · 3.2.F.1

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	map	**REGULAR**	Each letter makes its usual sound.
2	sun	**REGULAR**	Each letter makes its usual sound.
3	said	**TRICKY**	The letters ai make a short e sound.
4	picnic	**REGULAR**	Both syllables follow common letter-sound patterns.
5	does	**TRICKY**	The letters oe do not make their usual sound.
6	two	**TRICKY**	The w is silent.
7	sunset	**REGULAR**	Both sun and set follow common letter-sound patterns.
8	one	**TRICKY**	The word begins with a /w/ sound that its spelling does not clearly show.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **REGULAR**: tent
- **TRICKY**: could

Challenge: The dog would run.

For Part 2, accept two words with accurate clues. For example, map has the usual sounds for m, a, and p, while two has a silent w.