

A Parents' Guide to
Supporting Children's
Spelling



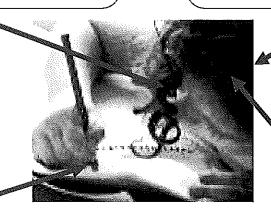
There are four main ways in which children process the spelling of words.

Visual

'Does it look right?'
Writer responds to the shapes of words and the patterns of the letter-strings within words.

Auditory

'Sound it out!'
Writer recognises the relationship
between sounds and letters or
groups of letters, and analyses
words in these terms..



Kinesthetic

'Let the spelling come out of the end of your pencil!'

Spelling as a grapho-motor skill: writer is accustomed to making specific hand-movements to produce particular words or letter strings.

Linguistic

'Why is it spelt like that?'
Writer is aware of relationships
between words or parts of words,
based on meanings, syntax,
derivations, etc.

hear see say

All children have a preferred learning style and by offering them activities which suit this, they can learn more quickly and effectively.

Visual -



By looking at the letter/word as it is said or written, a visual link is created to the manual, oral and auditory channels.

Auditory -



By listening to the phoneme/word as it is said and written, an aural link is created to the manual visual and oral channels.

Oral kinaesthetic -



By saying the letter/word as it is viewed or written, an oral link is created to the manual, visual and auditory channels.

Manual kinaesthetic -



By writing/creating/modeling/tracing the letter/word as it is viewed or spoken, a manual link is created to the oral, visual and auditory channels.

Learning Strategies for Spelling

Sounding out or 'Fred talking'

Eq. C-a-t, Sh-i-p.

This is the most popular method for teaching spelling. Ask the child to spell out or 'segment' the word they want to spell, then write the constituent sounds. Children use pure sounds.

Syllabification

Clap out and say each of the syllables. Eg. Re-mem-ber

Analogy

Making families of words Eg. Night, fright, sight, slight

Root

E.g. bi (two) cycle (circle) = bicycle

Prefixes and suffixes

E.g. Dis-satisfied

Rules

E.g. 'i' before 'e' except after 'c'
Word ending in Y such as fairy/fairies (consonant +y = ies)
Donkey/donkeys (vowel +y = ys)

Referring to the family words that articulate the ambiguous letters

E.g. Definite – finite, final, infinity Muscle – muscular

Sounding out words as they are spelt

Eg. Wed-nes-day

Words within words

Eg.There is a rat in separate

Mnemonics

Big Elephants Can Always Upset Small Elephants

Hove Junior's Spelling Model

Week 1 - Explore a spelling pattern or rule

Whole class teaching (15/20 mins)

Independent work (20 mins) Practise Convention. Whole class teaching or independent games/investigations.

Week 2 – Practise Convention

Whole class teaching or independent games/investigations (15 mins) (Dependent on class/year group)

Explore 'tricky bit' of HFW or cross-curricular words.

Practise HFW or cross curricular words.

Practise and assess words learned.

There are five units in each term which would take 10 weeks to cover. Since most terms are longer than this, there is time to assess and revisit tricky concepts.

2 Weekly Homework

Spelling objectives and differentiated word lists put onto homework.

Activities to support this stage of development.

Spelling Rainbows

Choose your 3 favourite crayons to rainbow write your spelling words. Write each word first in pencil in yor literacy log. Then trace over each word three times. Each time you trace, you must use a different colour crayon.

Silly Sentences

Write ten silly sentences using a spelling word in each sentence. Please underline your spelling words! Write your sentences neatly!

Example My dog wears a blue and purple dress when he takes a bath.

Backwards Words

Write your spelling words forwards and then backwards.

erehw where Colour ruoloc

Pyramid Writing

Pyramid write 10 of your spelling words. When you are finished, draw a pyramid around your word.

h Home h o h o m ho me

ABC Order

Example

Write your spelling words in alphabetical order. Be sure to look at the first letter of each word. If the first letter is the same, look at the second letter.

Spelling Paragraph

Write a paragraph using ALL of your spelling words. Be sure to underline your spelling words in your paragraph.

Don't forget a topic sentence and a concluding sentence.

Draw and Label

Draw and label ten of your spelling words neatly. You MUST colour your drawings and labels.

Don't forget to add a lot of great detail. Do your very best work!

Squiggly Spelling Words

Choose ten spelling words.

You are going to write them two times. Write them first in squiqqly letters. Then write them once more in regular letters.

Blue Vowels

Write EACH of your spelling words out neatly.

You will need a **BLUE** coloured pencil. Trace over ALL the vowels in each word with your blue coloured pencil.

Vowels= A E I O U

Bubble Letters

Write six or your spelling words in bubble letters neatly. After you write your words in bubble letters, coulour your words with a crayon or coloured pencil.



Acrostic Poem

Choose ONE of your spelling words. Write an acrostic poem for that word.

You must also **ILLUSTRATE** your poem.

Example

Fun in the sun Laps around clouds

Adding My Words

- 1. Choose ten spelling words.
- Add up each spelling word.
- 3. Write them neatly.
- *Consonants are worth 10.
- *Vowels are worth 5.

Fly

Yes! I'm free!

Example

Said = 10+5+5+10=30There =10+10+5+10+5=40

Spelling Shapes

Write each of your spelling words neatly. Then go back and draw a circle around consonants and draw a square around the vowels.

Spelling Riddles

Choose 5 spelling words and write riddles for these words. Don't forget to add the answer to your riddle.

Example

I cry when I am hungry. I am cute and cuddly. I wear nappies. What am I?

*Answer- Baby

Rhyming Words

Choose eight of your spelling words.

First write each spelling neatly. Think of a rhyming word for each spelling word. Write the new rhyming word next to your spelling word.

*Example: Cries Tries

Spelling Sort

Think of a way to sort your spelling words. Write your word sort neatly. You may want to sort your words by: syllables, beginning sounds, part of speech (nouns, verbs, adjectives, other), vowel sounds

The possibilities are endless! Have fun!

Spelling Code

Think of a code for each letter of the alphabet. Write the code neatly.

Example:



Then write as many of your spelling words as you can in your code. You must write the actual spelling word next to the "code word."

Upper and Lower

First write your spelling words neatly. Then rewrite each word, but this time write the vowels in lowercase and the consonants in uppercase.

Example lower LoWeR

Across and Down

- 1. Choose ten spelling words.
- 2. Write each word neatly across and down, sharing the beginning letter.

Example when

е

Fancy Letters

Write each of your spelling words neatly using fancy letters. Your letters can have curly-q's or dots, for example. Have fun and be creative!



Spelling Shapes

Count your spelling words. If you have 15 words, draw 15 different shapes. Then write your spelling words neatly inside each of the different shapes.

Silly Spelling Story

Write a silly spelling story using each of your spelling words. Be sure to underline your words as you use them.

If you have time, you can illustrate and colour your silly picture to go along with your silly story!

Spelling Scramble

Write your spelling words with the letters scrambled up. Then, unscramble the letters and write the word correctly next to the scrambled word.

Three times

Write each of your spelling words out neatly three times neatly!

Example iabsbe= babies

Create an Activity

Can you think of a fun activity to do with your spelling words? Be sure to give your activity a special name!

Syllables Spelling

Classify your spelling words accordingly to syllables. Clap each spelling word quietly to yourself to see how many syllables you hear. Write a chart like the one below.

1 syllable2 syllables3 syllablescatbrotherelasticballfriendlycorrectly

Parts of Speech

Sort your spelling words according to their part of speech:

Noun, adjective, verb, other

Make a chart like the one below.

Noun adjective verb other Apple red eat

Playdough Spelling

Roll a small amount of play dough into a ball. Turn your ball of play dough into a play dough pancake. Take a toothpick and carefully write a spelling word in the play dough. With your finger, smooth out the word and start over with another spelling word. Write all of your spelling words in this way.

Connect the Dots

Write ten of your spelling words in dots.

Then connect the dots by tracing over them with a coloured pencil.

Spelling Scrabble

Spell each of your words with scrabble tiles. Then add up the point value using the numbers on each tile. Write the words in order according to their point value from greatest to least.

Spelling Picture

Choose ten of your spellings.
Draw a picture incorporating all of your spellings somehow into the picture. Ask someone else to guess your spelling words by looking at your picture. As they are looking, try and spell their guesses!

Dot, Dash and Count

Sound out each one of your spellings, how many sounds are in each word?

Glossary

Consonant – any letter of the alphabet which is not a vowel.

Digraph – Two letters which together make one unit of sound, e.g. sh. th, ee, oa.

Grapheme – The written representation of letters which represent the sounds.

Homophone – a word which sounds the same as another word but is spelt differently and has a different meaning, e.g. hear and here

Phonetics – system of spelling words by representing sounds with syllables

Phoneme – the smallest unit of sound in a word, e.g. c/a/t, sh/o/p, t/ea/ch/er.

Prefix – small addition to a word made by joining on one or more letters at the beginning, e.g. pre, anti

Plural - a plural word refers to more than one thing, e.g. books

Segmenting – means hearing the individual phonemes within a word – for instance the word 'crash' consists of four phonemes: 'c-r-a-sh'. In order to spell this word, a child must segment it into its component phonemes and choose a grapheme to represent each phoneme.

Singular – the name referring to one thing or a group of things, e.g. man, book, flock

Split digraph – two letters, which work as a pair, split, to represent one sound, e.g. a-e as in cake, or i-e as in kite

Suffix – a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change the way you use it, e.g. coward – cowardly

Syllable – a combination of one or more vowels and consonants which can make one short word or part of a longer word, e.g. won-der-ful

Trigraph – three letters which together make one sound but cannot be separated into smaller phonemes, e.g. igh as in light, ear as in fear and tch as in watch

Vowel - there are 5 vowels in the alphabet - aeiou