

Spelling Strategies

❖ Sounding out the word

Sound the word out little by little. If it sounds wrong, try changing the vowel sound from long to short or vice versa. Long or short? Definite - long - de/fine/it (fine as in fine day)
- short - de/fin/it (fin as in shark's fin)



❖ Mnemonics

Make a phrase or a sentence up about a word that you have difficulty spelling.

Because - big elephants can always understand small elephants.

Believe - believe has a lie in it.

Parliament - I am parliament

Affect/effect - Raven - Remember, affect = verb, effect = noun.

Hear - you hear with your ear.

Aloud - a loud noise is always heard.

Separate - there is a rat in separate.



❖ Picture words

Create pictures from the syllables



= underfoot

Der

❖ Highlight helper



Colour in tricky parts of the word - Wednesday, colour.

❖ Say it as you spell it



Wed/nes/day, fav/our, dis/tinc/tion (dis tinc tee on). This technique helps with picture words.

❖ Chanting's the charm



Chant or sing the word. Mississippi = Mrs I, Mrs SS I, Mrs SS I, Mrs PP I. Your voice could become louder, higher pitched, deeper, sad, happy or a silly voice. You could make the tone of your voice similar to the meaning of the word e.g. growl the word furious.

❖ Rap a rhyme



Choose words which rhyme with the one you want in order to help you spell it correctly: flower, tower, power - be careful, as flour is said like flower, but spelt differently.

❖ Post-it aplenty

Write any new vocabulary down on post-it notes and stick them on the furniture which you use everyday e.g. a wall, mirror or door. You're eyes will take in the word without you realising.



❖ Heaven scent



Use your sense of smell to learn a new word and help your memory. A squirt of aftershave, perfume or a drop of food colouring on the word card will trigger your memory and help next time you smell the scent.

❖ Copy Look Cover Write Check

Copy the correct spelling out onto a page, look at the word and memorise it by using the above strategies. Then cover the word and write it down. Uncover the original and check your spelling.



❖ Read more at home



The more you read, the more you will come across new words which will broaden your knowledge. You will take on board spellings and new vocabulary which you can look up in the dictionary. Try reading aloud to yourself or someone else and use the above strategies to help you with any tricky words.



❖ Dictionary Delight

Dictionaries are there to help and they have the correct spelling. Sound out the word and break it up into syllables. Think of the different letter combinations which might make that syllable sound.





Remembering spellings

To follow are some tips for remembering spellings. Develop a strategy for learning spellings rather than attempting to learn each new word as it comes up. Some people have one strategy that works best for them; others like to try more than one.

Look, say, cover, write, check

- Look at the word you want to learn; highlight any parts that seem difficult; look at its shape.
- Say the word to yourself, sounding out all the letters.
- Cover the word.
- Write down the word without looking at the original.
- Check to see if you have spelled the word right; if it's wrong, try again.
- Repeat the above as many times as necessary in the next few days.

Word structure

Learn common prefixes (eg **dis-**, **un-**, **re-**, **pre-**) and suffixes (eg **-able**, **-ful**, **-ness**) and use them to break down words into parts to make them easier to learn:



reported

Syllables

Break words up into syllables so that you're dealing with the sounds of chunks of words:

num-ber con-tact med-i-cal

Words within words

Sometimes you'll find words within words - it can help with the tricky parts of the spelling if you isolate these. For example:

present elephant teacher

Mnemonics

Mnemonics are learning devices that aid memory. They are useful in helping to remember difficult spellings. For example:

necessary - one collar (c) and two socks (s)

rhythm - rhythm helps your two hips move

W/C: _____

Spellings to Learn

Remember: Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check!

	<u>Word</u>	<u>Attempt 1</u>	<u>Attempt 2</u>
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			

ai

ay

Can be spelt as ai, a or a_e

main

bacon

wake

ay is used at the end of a word
or before a suffix

stay

played

oi

oy

Mostly spelt as oi

boil

spoil

noise

oy is used at the end of a word
or before a suffix

boy

annoying

ou ow

Mostly spelt as **ou**

loud

sound

mouse

ow is used at the end of a word

cow

brow

ow is used before a vowel

tower

shower

ow is used before an l

owl

cowl

ow is used before an n

brown

clown

j ge

Words never end with j. Use ge or dge instead

cage

stage

huge

badge

edge

judge

v ve

Words never end with v. Use ve instead

love

alive

cave

save

glove

above

ss ce

Mostly use **ss** after a short vowel sound

miss

toss

fuss

There are exceptions to this rule
that use a single **s**

bus, is, yes, was, this,
has, as, his, plus

and a few more...

ce is used after a long vowel
sound

mice

pace

ce is used after an n

prance

dance