

Spelling Strategies

Find the word

Look to see if you can see a small word inside your word.
E.g. **where**, **friend**.

Matching pairs

Find matching pairs of words with a spelling pattern in.
E.g. **train/rain**

Jumbled letters

Write your word on paper, cut each letter and put the word back together.

Rainbow words

Break the word down into syllables and write each part in a different colour.

Bubble writing

Write the word in bubble writing and write inside it

Word shape

Draw around the shape of the word and try to remember.

Mnemonic

Write a mnemonic to remind you of the spelling. The first letter of each word in the sentence spells the word. E.g. **where**:
what has everyone really eaten?

Look, say, cover, visualise, write, check

Look at the word
Say it out loud
Cover the word
Visualise the word
(imagine a picture of it in your head)
Write the word from memory
Check the word.

Rhymes and pictures

Use rhymes or pictures to go with words to help them remember.
1. You hear with your ear
2. The word separate has "a rat" in it (separate).
3. Donkeys, monkeys - There are keys in donkeys and monkeys.
4. The word here is also in its opposite there.
5. Villain - A villain is one who lives in a villa.

Musical spellings

Make up a short rhyme or song to remember spellings or rules for spellings.

Pronunciations

Saying the word in a funny way—for example, pronouncing silent letters - e.g. **K-night**

Dictation

Dictate a sentence. Children to write the sentence and read back.

Hangman

Play the hangman game to encourage children to predict letters in the word.

Words ending in Words starting in

Challenging children to think of as many words beginning or ending with certain letters. Children scoring points for the correct spelling of the word according to its length—the longer the word, the more points awarded.

Words starting in 'St'

Hide words in a picture

Draw a picture and hide your spelling words in that picture.

Pyramid

Draw words in a pyramid, progressing a letter at a time for each additional layer.

Segmenting

Breaking down the word into its syllable segments:
s—p—oo—n

Quick Write Challenge

Repeatedly writing the word under time constraints.

Proof Read and Edit

Spotting and correcting deliberate mistakes.

Building Words

Provide a list of prefixes, suffixes and root words and ask children to construct as many words as possible.

RE—COVER—ING
DIS—AGREE—MENT

Spin a Word (Prefixes and Suffixes)

Create a wheel of common prefixes and suffixes and provide children with root words. What words can be made using the spun prefix or suffix?

Building words from morphemes

Morphemes (smallest units of meaning) can be free (e.g. sign) or bound (e.g. fin)
Place morpheme in middle of a spider diagram and build words from it.

Spelling Bee

Competitive spelling bee where children spell words letter by letter orally.

Grapheme Choice

Select the appropriate grapheme—choose from grapheme list. E.g. c??
cle—select from er, ir, ur

Crossword and Word searches

Helps words in context and understanding meaning in addition to sequence of letters.

Scrabble Words

Children building words from with letters scoring comparative to Scrabble.