

Fun ways to learn spellings at home

This is a useful document that will provide you with a range of different activities you can carry out with your child to help them learn their weekly spellings and key word spellings.

Here are some fun ways of playing with words!

With spelling flashcards:

- **Pairs:** Create a double set of the words your child is finding tricky. Pick up two cards at a time until they find a pair. Can they verbally spell it out to you?
- **Flip, Read, Letters and Write:** Your child can learn their spellings in 4 quick steps. Have the child flip over a card, read it, spell out the letters and then write it down.
- **Trace, Copy, Recall:** Fold a piece of paper into three columns and label them trace, copy and recall. Write the word in the first column and have your child trace it. Next, get them to copy the word in the next column by looking back at the letters. Finally, get them to fold and hide the first two columns and practise writing the word in the final column.
- **Pocket Cards:** Make small cards to keep in your pocket or bag and when you are walking to school, making breakfast or sitting in the park ask the children to spell the words to you.

With pen, pencil, marker and paper:

- **Spelling Word Race:** Create two teams with a player from each team taking the 'pen' at a time. Someone calls out the word and the two players race to write the word first.
- **Spelling Puzzle:** Make a home-made puzzle by writing the words in large on a piece of card. Get your child to cut it up and then can they piece it back together again?
- **Stairs:** Write the words as if they are stairs, adding one letter each time: S, Sp, Spe, Spel, Spell
- **Tic-Tac-Toe:** This game is a favourite of the children's and is often best known as Os and Xs. Using the spelling words the child needs to make, get three in a row of the words spelt correctly. They can compete with you or a friend.
- **Chalk:** If you have any chalk (and don't mind getting your path a bit messy) get the child to write the words on the ground and then the rain will (hopefully!) wash it away.
- **Water Paint:** Use water and a paintbrush to water paint the spelling words. On a hot sunny day the words disappear quickly so they need to paint fast!

With a computer or tablet:

- **Type it out:** Open up a document to type on. Call out the word for the child to spell. They can then play around with the word; increase the font size, change the colour etc.
- **Voice record:** Using a recording device (voice memo on a mobile phone or tablet) have your child spell out the word and get them to listen back.

- **Puzzlemaker:** Go onto this website and your child or you enter the weekly spellings and then have fun searching for them in the puzzle.

<http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/WordSearchSetupForm.asp>

- **Spelling City:** Head over to the website and have your child type in the spelling words by playing a range of fun games. <http://www.spellingcity.com/>