

Name: ..... Date: .....

The following strategies can really help you become a better speller!

**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
- **Hear** – you hear with your ear.
- **Aloud** – a loud noise is always heard.
- **Separate** – there is a rat in separate.

**Picture words**

Create pictures to help you remember the word.

underfoot =

**Highlight helper**Highlight tricky parts of the word e.g. **Wed**nesday, **colou**r.**Say it as you spell it**Be sure to pronounce each syllable clearly, e.g. **Wed/nes/day, fav/our, des/per/ate.**

This technique also helps you to visualise the word.

**Chanting's the charm**

Chant or sing the word e.g. Mississippi = Mrs I, Mrs SS I, Mrs SS I, Mrs PP I.

Your voice could become louder, higher pitched, deeper, sadder, happier or sillier. You could even make the tone of your voice similar to the meaning of the word e.g. growl for the word 'furious'.

**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?

E.g. definite – *long* – de/fine/it ('fine' as in fine day)  
*short* – de/fin/it ('fin' as in shark's fin)

### Rap a rhyme

Choose words which rhyme with the one you want in order to help you spell it correctly: **flower, tower, power**.



### Sticky notes aplenty

Write down any new vocabulary on a sticky note and put them on the furniture which you use every day, e.g. a wall, mirror or door. You will memorise the word without even realising.



### Heaven scent

Use your sense of smell to learn a new word and help your memory. A squirt of a scent 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 and memorise it using the following strategy: copy it, look at it, cover it, write it and finally check it.



### 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.



### Combining letters

Look at letter patterns and rhyme them with words using the same patterns. Make a mnemonic to help you remember. For example, if you can't remember how to spell the number 'two', don't learn it with **to, too and two**. Use its 'tw' sound and rhyme it with other 'tw' sounding words e.g. **two twins twirled** and **twisted** during the **two-step** and ignored the **twits** **twittering** about **twine**.



Try one of these fun interactive ways to help you to learn your spellings at home.

Use sugar, sand, salt or shaving cream to practise spelling your words.	Use an empty bottle of washing-up liquid filled with water to spell your word outside on the concrete.	Write words in fancy ways or decorate your letters.	Spell words using letter tiles, letter magnets or foam letters.
Spell your words with cereal or pasta and glue to card or paper.	Write each of your words and draw a picture to show its meaning.	Cut out letters from magazines or newspapers to build your letters onto paper.	Rainbow words – write each of your spelling words with different colours.
Create a word pyramid for each word. Example :       d d o d o g	Create a word search for your words. Give it to your family to complete and they could do the same for you.	Create two word cards for each word. Play a game of 'Concentration' or 'Go Fish' with a family member.	Use different coloured sticky notes or paper to help group your spellings together e.g. by letter pattern or by syllables.
Type your words on the computer using a different font each time.	Spell your word using plasticine or modelling clay.	Spell your word out in coloured pen on sticky notes and put on your wall or furniture around the house.	Write your words on thicker paper with glue. Sprinkle glitter over your words.