

Helping your child learn spellings at home

Below are a bank of games and ideas that you can use to help your child learn spellings at home.

Name	Explanation	Resources needed
Stair-steps	Write the words as if they are stairs, adding one letter at a time. w / we / wei / weig / weigh / weight	Scrap paper
Spelling Word Hunt:	Look for your spelling list words in the newspaper or in another book or magazine! If it's an old newspaper or magazine you could circle them or use a highlighter to highlight them.	Newspaper/magazine book highlighter
Word Scramble:	Scramble up the letters of each word and put them in the correct order. (Don't forget to point out patterns and families!)	Magnetic letters / paper letters, children can make them using scrap paper or even play scrabble.
Say the silent letter	When letters or parts of words are silent , say the words in an exaggerated way. For example, k-nife, and bus-i- ness. Group together words that may not sound alike but have a shared pattern.	
Clap out the syllables	Every syllable MUST have a vowel so clapping out the word into syllables can often help remember the spelling.	

Read, cover, write, check	Read the word, cover it up with your hand, write it out on a piece of paper and then check it is correct.	Scrap paper
Fancy letters	Write the spelling out in a really fancy way with curly letters, different colours etc.	Scrap paper Different colours
Words without vowels	Write all your spellings down but miss out all the vowels and just draw a line instead. Then go through the list and see you can fill in the gaps. The same can be done with the consonants.	Scrap paper Different colours
Secret code	Number the alphabet from 1-26 eg a=1 , b = 2 c = 3 etc. Create a secret code for your spellings and see if somebody can work it out.	Scrap paper
Story	Write a TV commercial or short story including all of your spelling list, making sure you write it out and spell the words correctly. You could even write a song or rap that includes all your spellings.	Scrap paper
Dicey spellings	Roll a 6 sided dice. The number you get decides which task you do: 1. write word with eyes shut 2. write word with opposite hand 3. spell word aloud backwards 4. write word in bubble writing 5. write each letter in different colour 6. write a synonym for the word.	Dice Scrap paper