



Ideas to support your child to learn their spellings.

I hope your child has settled into Year 1 well. Myself and Miss Thelwell have been so proud of them all. They have transitioned really well and are rising to the new challenges in Year 1 and have picked up new routines very quickly.

By now your child will have received a Reading book and a Phonics book. The Reading book is a colour band book that will be changed on a Monday and a Thursday. We use this to hear the children read and as their reading progresses, they will move up the colour bands. The children also take home a Phonics book on a Tuesday which is collected in on a Friday. This matches the phonic sounds that they are learning that week with their Phonics teacher. This book is designed to be matched in this way to ensure that the children can develop their fluency in reading and comprehension as it contains words that have familiar phonemes (sounds). Many of the words within the book are words they have been reading in Phonics lessons when learning a new phoneme, along with tricky words that cannot be segmented into their individual sounds, for example 'are'.

Your child will also have brought home a spelling book with their spellings in. These will be a list of 8–10 words that have been taken from the Phonics lessons that week. This means that the children are already familiar with reading and spelling them.

We understand that your child can be tired in the evenings and not want to practise their spellings and a few parents have asked for ideas to make learning spellings fun. I hope that these ideas help and are useful. They are a mix of strategies that we use in school and that have proven effective in engaging and motivating the children at home. Mrs Dodd



Spelling Treasure Hunt

Hiding post it notes or pieces of paper around the house / in the toy box / in the cupboards and asking your child to find them as quickly as they can and read them. The more times they read them, the easier it will be to spell them. Your child could then write the words on pieces of paper to hide for you. Perhaps ask them to hide 3 that they think they can spell if you say the word to them. Then build up to them hiding more as they learn more.

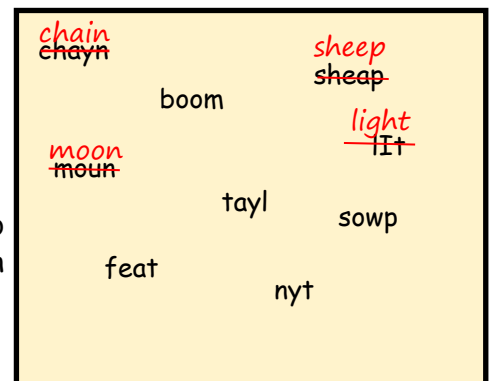


Word Web

Again, beginning with reading, give your child a sheet of paper with the words from their list written on. As you say one can they cross it off or circle it?

You're the teacher!

Write the words out incorrectly. Ask your child for help to spell them correctly. In school they love nothing more than telling the teacher that we are wrong!



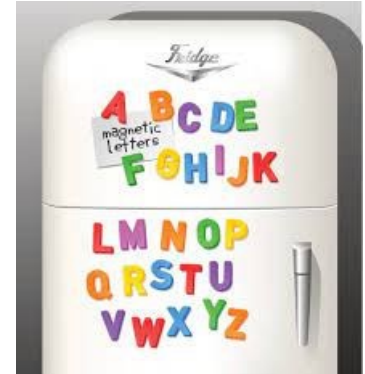


Spelling Jigsaw

Write each part of the word on a post it note or a piece of paper and give them to your child in a muddle. Ask them to use the sounds to build their spellings; as you say one, they need to make it.

Magnetic Letters

If you have any magnetic fridge letters, you could ask your child to make the spellings using the letters.



Using Technology

Can your child write the words on an iPad or type them on a laptop?

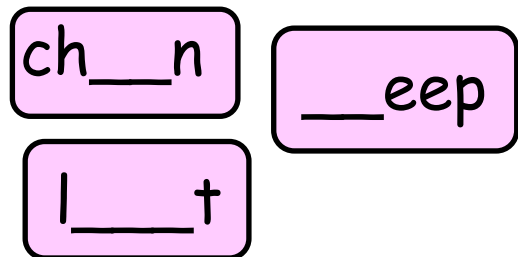


Rainbow Spellings

Using different colours to write the letters in a word, or to write each word in a different colour.

What's Missing?

Write the words with some parts missing. Say the word and ask your child to fill in the gaps.



Painting / Play Doh Spellings

In school the children love nothing more than getting out the paint or using play doh. Could they paint their words or use play doh to make the letters or scratch the word into?

