

Spelling

At Fleet, we do spelling tests roughly every two weeks in years 2-6. The children work through twelve year group appropriate lists, each list with ten words. They start easier and get harder. The words are taken from the National Curriculum, as well as any words teachers feel are commonly misspelt in their classes.

Your child should know what their current spelling words are. They are usually stuck in home learning journals. If not, ask your child's teacher to send them.

It is also important that your child knows how to spell high frequency (common) words. They can be found here: <http://www.highfrequencywords.org/first-100-high-frequency-word-list-precursive.html>

Practising spellings at home

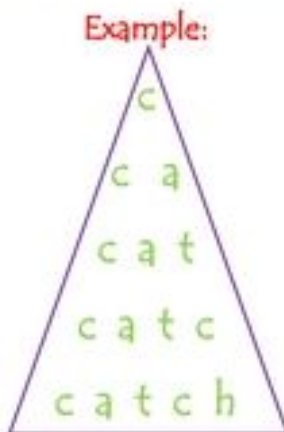
Some important things to remember:

- Little and often works best! A short, fun spelling practise as often as possible will help your child retain words.
- Not too many words at a time – feel free to only focus on 3-5 words per practice session, depending on your child's age. You don't need to do the whole list in one go.
- Find what strategy works best for your child – some children may prefer written methods of practising, some may prefer verbal. See below for some ideas.
- Talk about mistakes – look at the words your child is finding tricky. Is it one letter that they keep mistaking? Is there a tricky letter they can't hear? Is it related to any other words they know? Think of a way to help them remember.
- Get everyone involved – get siblings to test each other!

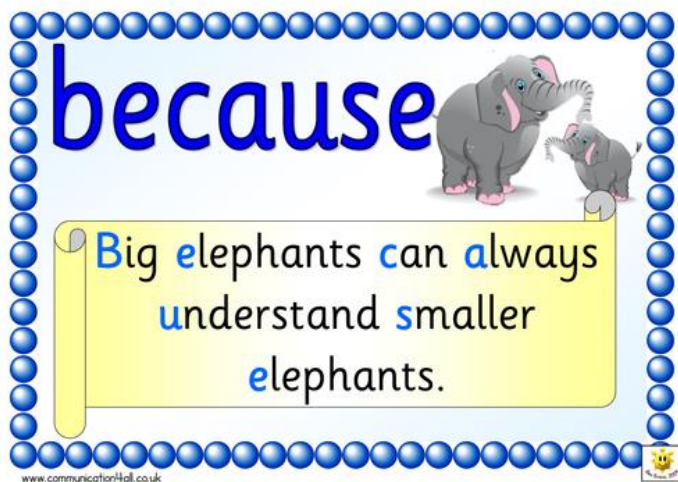
Ideas for practising

Written strategies:

- Word pyramids – write your words adding one letter each time to form a pyramid



- Mnemonics – can you create your own?



- Different writing styles – how many different ways can you write out your words? Can you use bubble writing? Wiggly writing? Robot writing? Dots?

- Different colours – write your words using a different colour for each letter. Or do consonants all one colour and vowels all another colour.

- Number codes for different letters – create a number code where A = 1, B = 2, C = 3 etc. Can you write out the number for your spellings? Which word has the highest total?

- Picture codes – create a picture code for your letters. Get someone else to decode your words.



SECRET CODE SPELLING

Make a secret code by drawing the pictures for each letter next to your spelling word.

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
☆	♥	☞	⚓	🇺🇸	☀	🍏	😊	←	⊙	→	💥	🌲
n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
☺	🌀	🗨	✳	🦋	🐞	🌸	◯	👁	🌀	🔑	△	

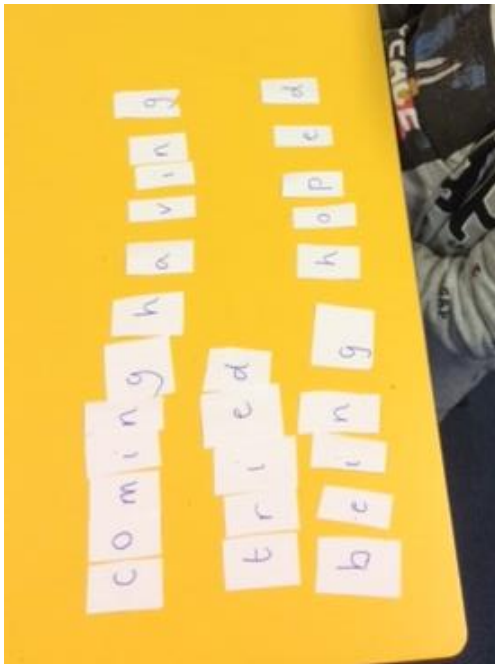
Example: 1. they = 🐞 😊 🇺🇸 ☞ 2. did = ⚓ ← 🌲

- Acrostic – can you make an acrostic to help you remember your word?

Funny
Read
Interesting
Enjoyable
Nice
Delightful

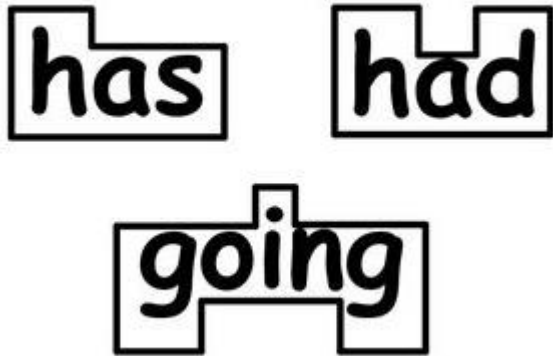
- Hangman – play hangman with someone to practise the words on your list!

- Letter cards – write out your spelling words and strips of paper and then cut them up so each letter is on a piece. Scramble them up on a table and time yourself putting them back together again! Can you try again and beat your score?



- Spot the mistake/ which way is correct – get someone to write out the words three different ways. Can you spot the correct spelling?

- Word shapes – imagine you've drawn round the outline of your spelling words. Which letters are tall? Which letters are low? Draw the outlines and get someone else to fill them in.



Verbal strategies:

- Sing each letter – can you make up a tune?
- Use different voices to say the letters – can you use your lowest/ highest/ loudest/ quietest/ silliest voice?
- Clap the letters/ syllables of your words (or make a clapping pattern to do with someone else – e.g. clap for vowels, click for consonants)
- Use your magic pencil – draw the spelling letters with your finger in the air. Can you do it with your eyes closed? Can you guess which word someone else is writing?
- Talk about the word - which bit of the word is tricky to spell? Why? How are we going to remember it?

Website ideas:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zt62mnb> - spelling patterns practice and quiz

<http://flash.topmarks.co.uk/4762> - game for prefixes and suffixes

<https://spellingframe.co.uk/> - year group specific lists or create your own tests

<http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/WordSearchSetupForm.asp> - create your own word search of your spelling words

<http://www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/spookySpellings/index.html> - fun spelling game

https://www.spellzone.com/word_lists/games-368706.htm - some ideas for online games