

How to learn your spellings

Activity 1 – Look, copy, cover, write, check.

Look at the word and *copy* it down. Then, *cover* the word with your hand, an object or a sheet. Without looking at the covered word, try to *write* it again, spelling it correctly. Uncover the original word and *check* whether you have spelt it correctly. Repeat at least 5 times for each word.

Activity 2 – Definitions

Look up the definition (meaning) of each word in the dictionary. Write the definition for each word. Make sure you understand the definition. Ask a grown up if you're unsure of the meaning. Be careful – sometimes words have more than one meaning!

Activity 3 – Sentences

Write each word into a sentence. Make sure it makes sense! This helps you to know that you can apply the word to your writing.

Activity 4 – Handwriting

Write each word 10 times. Take your time, join your letters and make them as neat as possible. Focus on how the word feels as you write it. Writing words lots of times helps us to store them in our 'muscle memory'.

Activity 5 – Rainbow words

Use different coloured pencils to help you remember your words. You could colour in, highlight or write the tricky part of the word (or the spelling rule) in a different colour. You could also write each letter in a different colour. Whatever works for you! Make your words as beautiful as possible. This is a great activity if you are a visual learner.

Activity 6 – Quick write

How quickly can you write the word 10 times? Make sure it is clear to read and spelt correctly. This helps to save the word in your 'muscle memory'.

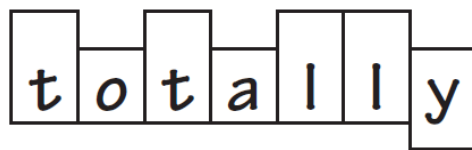
Activity 7 – Word pyramid

Make a word pyramid of each word. Focus on the order of the letters and the shape of the word on the page.

p
py
pyr
pyra
pyram
pyrami
pyramid

Activity 8 – Word shape

Write the word on your page and then draw a box around the word. What is the shape of your word? Does it have any tall letters or long letters? How many? This is great if you are a visual learner.



Activity 9 – Letter chant

Chant the letters of your word. This can be especially fun as you are walking to school. When you walk up the stairs at home, you could chant one letter for each step. This is a great activity if you are an auditory learner!

Activity 10 – Letter arranging

Make yourself some letter cards or use magnetic letters if you have them. Can you arrange the letters to spell the word correctly, muddle them up and rearrange them correctly again?

I can't decide which activity to do!

Use a random number generator online to decide for you. You could ask a family member to pick a number. It is a good idea to have a go at many different activities when learning your spellings.

Mrs Ashdown