

Spelling Ideas

Different ways to help your child learn their spellings.

1. Write each word out three times:
 - Use different colours for each word or for each letter
 - Write entirely in capital letters.
 - Go large with chalk on the pavement and use a paintbrush and water to write over the top and wash the word away.
 - Type the words in different fonts
 - In paint, a mix of cornflour and water or shaving foam.
2. Using old newspapers and magazines, cut the letters out to spell the word and stick them to paper. Before sticking them to paper you could play a game: muddle up the letters and see how quickly you can reorder the letters to spell the words. Can you beat your time?
3. Move it. Choose a physical activity to perform as you spell each letter of a word. For example, star jumps, touching your toes or hopping.
4. Pyramid writing. Pick a word to spell. Write the first letters on the first line, the first two letter on the next line down and so on until you spell the word. For example:

W
Wr
Wri
Writ
Write

5. Speed writing. Set a timer. See how many times you can write a word or list of words in the time set.
6. Noughts and crosses. Draw a 3x3 grid, grab 2 different colour pens and decide on words you will use. Now use these words on the grid instead of noughts and crosses to see who can be the first to get 3 in a row and win!

7. Take your pencil for a short 'walk' around your page. Now choose a word to write in each segment you've created. How many of the same word can you get into one segment, ensuring handwriting is still neat?
8. Draw a picture around the word to help you remember the spelling.
9. Write each word into a sentence - as sensible or as silly as you like!
Try to build your sentences into a story.
10. Write spellings onto little pieces of paper:
 - Put them around the house or your bedroom. When you see one, read it and spell it using letter names.
 - Make sure each word is written twice and play snap or matching pairs.
 - Put the words into alphabetical order.
 - Group the words depending on if they are a noun, a verb or an adjective.
11. Ask somebody to write a word on your back for you to guess. Take it in turns to write for each other.
12. Write words into the sky using your finger - go big or small! Say each letter as you write.
13. Cheerleader chanting! Chant how to spell a word. Use a high cheer for tall letters (h, l, t etc.), put hands on hips for letters that sit within the line (c, e, a, n etc.) and a low cheer for letters that drop below the line (g, j, p etc.)
14. Play a game of charades with the words. When the word is guessed, try spelling it.
15. Be a code breaker. Create a code and see if someone else can crack it. The code could be A=1, B=2, C=3 etc.