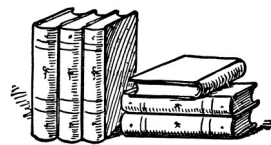




Headlands Primary School

Strategies for learning spellings at home



In **year 1**, children start to learn more about the different ways of spelling familiar letter sounds that they learned during their Reception year. In addition, they learn more '**common exception words**' (words that don't follow the usual rules but are used regularly). Teachers often find that getting children to learn spellings is one thing, but then getting them to use them in their everyday writing is another. One of the methods which works well is '**Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check**' - as the title suggests, children are encouraged to look at the word, say it out loud, cover it up, have a go at writing it and then check if it is correct. Having two or three tries means they can correct any errors.



Word	1st try	2nd try	3rd try

Copies of our 'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' sheet to take home are available from the class teachers.



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There are many other ways to learn spellings at home. Why don't you try some of the following.

Above all... Make it fun!

Keep Copying

Write your words out three times each. Use different colours if you want to.

spelling

spelling

spelling

Make the Headlines

Cut letters out of newspapers or magazines and stick them onto paper to make the words in your list.



Build a Pyramid

Make a pyramid using the letters in your words.

w

wo

wor

word

words



Create with Colour Write your words with each letter in a different colour, or write them with all the vowels in blue and all the consonants in red. spelling spelling	Capital Idea Write your words three times, each in capital letters. SPELLING SPELLING SPELLING	Learn Your ABC Write your words in alphabetical order, then rewrite them in order of the second letter, third letter and so on. my words spelling spelling words my
Take a Test Ask someone at home to test you by reading each word as you write it down. To make it more of a challenge, set a time limit, for example 20 seconds per word. 1. my 2. spelling 3. words	Picture This Include each of your words in a funny picture that makes you think of the word. 	Build a Sentence Write each of your words in a sentence. See if you can build your sentences into a story. One day a huge spelling monster came to my town and ate all the words!

Ideas to Help Make the Learning of Spellings More Fun

Cursive writing has been proven to help with spelling as the child develops a muscle memory of the movements of each word. Wherever possible, please practice spellings using a fully cursive script (cursive handwriting resources can be found within the 'Useful Information and Resources' area of our home page).

Word Hunt: Look for bookmark words in the newspaper or in another book, magazine, or text! Circle them or use a highlighter to highlight them.

Bingo: Each choose any 6 words from the bookmark and write them on your own bingo board. Nominate someone else to be the caller. Get them to call out words from the list. The first to cross off all their words wins!

Get Creative: Practice spelling the words in as many different, fun and unusual ways as possible: magnetic letters, scrabble tiles, writing them in chalk, painting them with water on the patio or pavement etc.

Word search: Generate (google: word search generator) or design your own word search using the bookmark words. Ask someone to do the same for you, then swap your word searches and start hunting!

Anagrams: Ask an adult to muddle up the letters within each word for you to un-jumble.

Speed write: Choose a few of the trickier words and see how many times you can write each of them out in a minute. Repeat with the same words each day. Can you beat your record each time?

Hangman: Get someone to choose a word from the list above and challenge you to guess it. Make it a rule that you cannot guess the whole word (even though you may have worked it out) instead you have to keep going until the whole word has been spelt correctly.

Snap: Make your own deck of 'snap' cards. Write out each word a maximum of 5 times, each on separate pieces of paper or card and then find a willing opponent to play with.

Rainbow Writing: Choose one of the trickier words, write it out in pencil then trace over it in a different colour. Repeat, repeat, repeat!

Spelling Word Race: Create two teams, with a player from each team taking the 'pen' at a time. Another person calls out a word from the bookmark and players race to write the word.

Type it Out: Open up a Word document and type the bookmark words on the screen as someone calls them out to you. Choose a funky font, enlarge it and change the colour each time you type a new word.

Sentence Writing: Choose words from the bookmark and include them in a sentence. Challenge yourself to include a conjunction in each of your sentences (and, but, so, or, because, if, when, that). Can you make one of your sentences a question?