

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?