

TIPS FOR PARENTS

WHOLE SPELLING LIST

Don't tackle a whole spelling list at one go, as this can be exhausting and frustrating for your child (and for you). Try doing one third at a time for perhaps 15 minutes each day after the evening meal. Shorter sessions given frequently are more effective than trying to do everything at once.

HOW TO PRONOUNCE

Children need to know how to pronounce a word before they can attempt to spell it. Ideally they would also know what the word means.

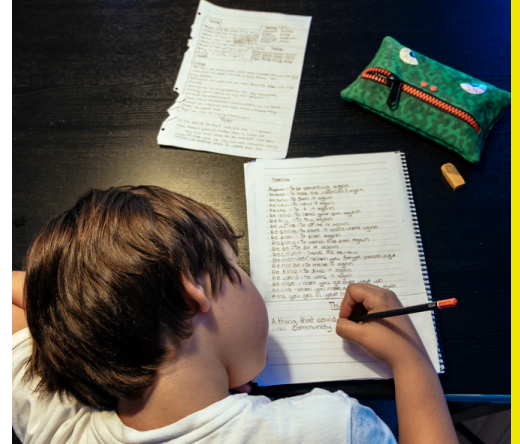
LOOK AT THE WORD



Start by asking your child to look at the word and pronounce it, and then say the letters. When they can do that ask your child to cover the word with the hand he doesn't use for writing and then use a finger on the other hand to trace out the word, letter by letter.

TRY THIS OLD TRICK

Try this old trick which really works. Technically it is called 'studying the configuration' but the task itself is quite easy. Ask your child to write out the words on their spelling list, then draw round each word with a black crayon. Make sure your child uses straight rather than curved lines to draw the outline of the word. Then encourage your child to lightly colour the shape of each word.



PRETEND

Pretend your child is the teacher and has to teach you the words they are learning to spell. Say the letters to them and let them correct you. Then ask your child to dictate their spellings to you so that you can write them down. Then let your child tell you how well you scored. Your child will know that you can spell the words already, but treating it like a game makes it fun.



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