

A Guide to Spelling



I BEFORE E EXCEPT AFTER C.

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Spelling in the Upper Juniors

In the Upper Juniors the children are expected to be able to spell all the high and medium frequency words (a copy of both lists is available on Edmodo in the spelling folder). All of the children will be given a weekly spelling list following one or more spelling patterns. The best way to learn spellings is to take a long hard look at the word, cover it up and then write it from memory. Once they have written it they need to check that it is spelt correctly and then rewrite it several times from memory. It is important that they do not just copy the word. Ideally they are learning the word for future use not just for the spelling test. Consequently it is better to look at the spellings several times over a week for short periods, rather than a prolonged session the night before the test. Enclosed is a list of all the rules they need to know with a couple of examples of words for each one. (More extensive lists can also be found in the spelling folder).

Steps to becoming a better speller:

*Knowing Prefixes/Suffixes/Roots: ex-, -ance, spell

*Knowing related/similar words: exude, exuberance

*Applying learnt sounds: ch, sh, i-e (inc. silent letters)

*Sounding it out (letters/syllables):
d-o-g, ex-ube-r-ance

*Learn spelling rules: “i before e except after c”

*Knowing compound words: earache

*Memory Hooks: mnemonics or silly sayings

*Knowledge from learning other languages:
beautiful

*Reading & Writing, with variety, frequently!

LIST OF RULES AND PATTERNS

<p>'cious' words</p> <p>vicious precious conscious delicious malicious suspicious</p>	<p>'tious' words</p> <p>ambitious anxious cautious fictitious infectious nutritious</p>	<p>'cial' words</p> <p>artificial commercial financial initial official special</p>	<p>'tial' words</p> <p>confidential essential partial</p>	<p>Words ending in 'ant'</p> <p>assistant expectant hesitant observant tolerant</p>
<p>Words ending in 'ance' or 'ancy'</p> <p>hesitancy observance substance tolerance</p>	<p>Words ending in 'ent'</p> <p>confident decent frequent independent innocent obedient</p>	<p>Words ending in 'ence' or 'ency'</p> <p>confidence decency frequency independence innocence obedience</p>	<p>words ending in 'able'</p> <p>adorable applicable comfortable considerable dependable enjoyable noticeable reasonable reliable understandable tolerable</p>	<p>words ending in 'ible'</p> <p>forcible horrible incredible legible possible sensible terrible visible</p>

Adding suffixes to words ending in 'fer'	Use of the hyphen	'i before e except after c' rule	Letter string 'ough'	Words with silent letters
referring referred referral preferring preferred transferring transferred reference referee preference transference	co-ordinate re-enter co-operate co-own	ceiling conceive deceive perceive receive	ought bought thought nought brought fought rough tough enough cough though although dough through thorough borough plough bough	doubt island knight lamb solemn thistle

<p>Homophones</p> <p>advice/advise device/devise licence/license practice/practise prophecy/prophesy aisle/isle aloud/allowed affect/effect altar/alter ascent/assent bridal/bridle cereal/serial compliment/complement</p>	<p>Homophones</p> <p>farther/further/father guessed/guest heard/herd led/lead morning/mourning past/passed descent/dissent desert/dessert draft/draught principal/principle profit/prophet stationary/stationery steal/steel</p>			
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How can I find out how to spell this word?

Try it out.
Does it
look right?

Can I break it down
into syllables or
phonemes?

Is there another word I
can spell that would help
me?

Is there a *spelling*
rule that I should
use?

Can I look it
up in the
dictionary?

Can I use a
mnemonic
to help me?

Is there a root word I
can spell, then add
the correct ending?

Spelling Games* To Help Your Child At Home...

*V A K refers to the child's preferred learning style where:

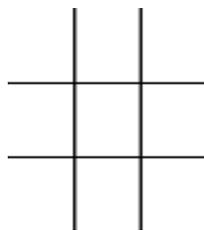
V = Visual (learns from seeing)

A = Auditory (learns from hearing)

K = Kinaesthetic (learns from doing)

TIC-TAC-TOE

This game is similar to noughts and crosses but with key words. With two players, each person picks a word that is the most complex in the list and then cover it up. In each space, the child writes the word. They must make a row of three to win.



This encourages children to focus upon words which they find problematic and practise spelling them in a meaningful challenge.

VK

NUMBER PLATES

A game similar to COUNTDOWN. On a car journey, observe the number plates of cars:
DG72 TRC

The aim of the game is to take the group of three letters and keeping them in that order, make the longest word possible.

From this number plate you could make the following

words:

Track

Trace

Terrific

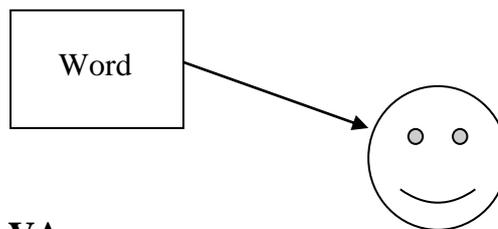
Tracing

This game encourages children to think about words, and may even be able to extend an existing word by adding a prefix or suffix.

VA

HOLDING WORDS TO THE LEFT

In learning new words, research has shown that in order to remember spellings, words should be held above and to the left of the child. This allows the brain to process and can therefore recall the word. As your child becomes better at spelling more complex words, they will recall the word – their eyes will avert to the same place as the word was introduced – observing the invisible word.



VA

COUNTDOWN/CONUNDRUMS

The board game can be purchased but this is easy enough to set up yourself at home. From 2 packs of randomly selected vowels and consonants, pick 8 letters in total and beat the clock (you choose the time limit... but no more than 3 mins!) to create the longest correctly spelled word.

Jumble up a known word to see if your child can solve the conundrum.

V K

...AND THE OBVIOUS ONES....

HANGMAN

WORD SEARCHES

JUNIOR SCRABBLE

BOGGLE

LOTTO

WORD SNAP

VAK

