



Useful tips to help your child spell tricky words.

- Complete a 'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' activity.
- Say - Spell - Say. (Where you say the word and read each letter together before saying it again)
- Writing the word out by copying it out 2 or 3 times.
- Writing the word by listening carefully to sounds.
- Spelling the word out loud.
- Putting the word into a meaningful sentence. (which includes information such as - Who, What, When, Why)



If you learn best by hearing things:

Say the word, making sure you pronounce it correctly.

Say the word, saying each letter e.g. where—w-h-e-r-e or blend e.g. string—str-i-ng.

Spell the word aloud: write it as you spell it out.

Sing the letters to the tune of a song or a jingle you know.

Choose a word from your list. Say it and listen carefully to it. Can you think of other words that rhyme with this word?

Break up the word into syllables. How many syllables can you hear? e.g. pencil: - pen / cil—two syllables; carefully care / ful / ly—three syllables

Say the word with your eyes closed.

Spell the word a letter at a time out loud with a partner. Take it in turns to say each letter until the word is spelt. How quickly can you do it?

Say your spellings out loud and record them on a mobile phone or computer (Most have a voice recorder !) Play it back and check if you were accurate.

If you learn best by seeing things:

Look at the word, **Say** it aloud, **Cover** the word, **Write** it once, **Check** your attempt. Repeat until you've had three attempts with each word.

Write your words using different types of writing e.g. bubble writing, dotty writing, giant writing.

Find words within words and highlight, circle, underline them e.g. 'rat' in separate, 'break' in breakfast.

Put your word list in alphabetical order.

Close your eyes and see the word. Open your eyes and write down the word. Check for accuracy and write again.

Create calligrams using words in your list e.g.
G R O W

Write mnemonics to help you to remember your words. e.g. because - big elephants can always understand small elephants.

Use different coloured pens / pencils when writing your words.

Ask an adult to create anagrams for you to solve by rearranging the letters in your list.

Look in a mirror as you say a word. What are your lips, tongue, teeth and breath doing to produce them.

If unsure of a word, write it down and see if it looks right—as in a 'have a go' pad.

If you learn best by doing things:

Look at the word; trace it with your index finger; say the letters.

Draw a coloured line all the way around the outline of the word. Consider what the drawing / shape reminds you of.

Write the word in shaving cream, sand in a box or finger paint etc.

Punch out the letters in the air; say each letter with each punch.

Bounce a ball ; say each letter of the word every time the ball bounces.

Sing, act or dance the word. (In your mind is ok!)

Use sandpaper / magnetic letters; trace words with your index finger while saying the letters aloud.

Write the word in the air / in the palm of your hand; write it on paper and check the accuracy.

Hide your written sample; write again and check for accuracy.

Trace over the word, remove the tracing paper and write it again. Check it for accuracy.

Cut out letters from newspapers / magazines to make your words.

Use a range of different media to write your words e.g. chalk, paint, glitter pens, the computer.

Find your words in the dictionary.

