



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD WITH SPELLINGS

At Fakenham Junior School we know that developing good spelling skills is a vital part of your child's literacy learning.

We set spelling homework each week. This usually takes the form of a list of words to learn. However, occasionally your child may be asked to learn a spelling rule. An example of this is removing the **e** when adding **ing** to a word - make ⇒ making. Sometimes your child may have an activity sheet to complete which links to learning they have done in school.

In school we encourage children to spot mis-spelt words in their own writing and to keep lists of these words in their **Spelling Journal**. They can then use their Spelling Journal to help them spell correctly in their writing.






Spelling in school is taught in two/three short bursts each week, but teachers aim to link the spellings they teach, to the words the children will need to use in their work.

Please talk to your child's class teacher if you are concerned or need further ideas to support learning spellings at home.

TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH SPELLINGS

Try the '**Look, say, cover, write, check**' method.

1. Ask your child to write the first word in their list.
2. Ask them to look at it carefully and speak it out loud.
3. Ask your child to cover the word up and try and picture it in their mind.
4. Ask them next to write the word and then check the spelling.
5. Continue to do the same with each word in their spelling list.

				
Look	Say	Cover	Write	Check

This table gives a plan for learning spellings over a week, assuming that your child receives spellings on a Friday and will be tested the following Friday. These sessions should be short, and your child may focus on perhaps two or three words at a time. The idea is to establish the spellings in your child's memory.

Friday night	Begin to learn spellings
Saturday	Learn spellings
Sunday	Take a break
Monday	Learn spellings
Tuesday	Take a break
Wednesday	Take a break
Thursday	Learning spellings

You can change this plan to fit in with your family's other commitments. Your child will make mistakes whilst learning the spellings. It is important to encourage them and look for gradual improvement and consistency rather than expecting them to get them all correct.

IDEAS FOR CHILDREN WHO FIND SPELLING DIFFICULT OR ARE DYSLEXIC

Each learning session:

1. Parent pronounces the word very slowly and clearly. Child repeats it
2. Child examines the word carefully noticing any tricky letters and remembering any spelling strategies that they have learnt at school
3. Child traces over the letters with fingers.
4. Cover the spelling.
5. Say the word aloud.
6. Write down the word from memory



Make this fun by:

- ◆ Writing each word in a different colour using joined writing
 - ◆ Using sponge letters in the bath or bath pens (great for writing on body and flat bathroom tiles—they wash off easily!)
 - ◆ Magnetic letters and words on the fridge that can be rearranged
 - ◆ Individual coloured spellings on post-it notes stuck around the house
 - ◆ Writing in sand
 - ◆ Writing in flour on a baking tray
 - ◆ Writing with chalk outside or on a board
7. Turn the paper over and check if it has been written correctly.
 8. Put the word in a sentence, either verbally or written