

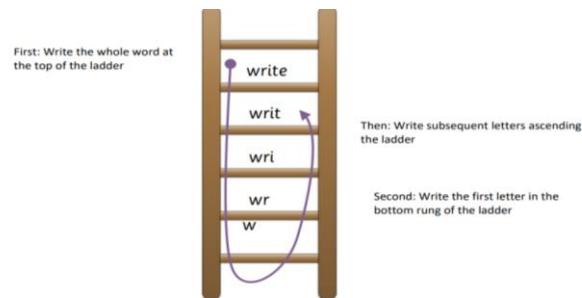
Spelling Strategies

Strategy	
Look, cover, write, check	This is probably one of the most common strategies used to learn spellings. Look: First look at the whole word carefully and if there is one part of the word that is difficult, look at that part in more detail. Say: say the word as you look at it, using different ways of pronouncing it if that will make the word more memorable. Cover: cover the word Write: Write the word from memory, saying the word as you do so. Check: Have you got it right? If yes, try writing it again and again! If not, start again - look, say, cover, write, check
Identify and discuss the tricky part of the word	Example: asked
Add the sound buttons underneath and segment the word into its sounds	asked ● ● ● —
Syllables	Identify the syllables in a word and clap out the syllables. Encourage your child to put their hand under their chin to help them to identify the syllables.
Consonants and vowels	Reinforce the terms consonants and vowels. Colour in consonants in one colour and vowels in another. Are there any patterns? Is there a pattern depending on the length of the vowel sound?
Words without vowels	This strategy is useful when the vowel choices are the challenge in the words. Write the words without the vowels and child has to choose the correct grapheme to put in the space. For example the word field: f _ ld

Visual strategies

Complete ladder writing - this method of learning spellings will support your child in thinking about each letter of the word individually.

See example below:



Complete pyramid writing

See example below:

w
w r
w r i
w r i t
w r i t e

You can then reverse the process to create a diamond.

Trace, copy and replicate (and then check)

This is a similar learning process to 'look, cover, write, check' but is also about develop automaticity and muscle memory.

Write the word out on a sheet of paper ensuring that it is spelt correctly and it is large enough to trace over. Trace over the word and say it at the same time. Move next to the word you have just written and write it out as you say it. Turn the page over and write the word as you say it, and then check that you have spelt it correctly.

If this is easy, do the same process for two different words at the same time. Once you have written all your words this way and feel confident, miss out the tracing and copying or the tracing alone and just write the words.

	You could also try rainbow writing your spelling words: 
Drawing around the word to show the shape	Draw around the words making a clear distinction in size where there are ascenders and descenders. Look carefully at the shape of the word and the letters in each box. Now try to write the word making sure that you get the same shape. been before began best
Quick Write	How many times can you write the word in a minute?
Creating fun mnemonics as a family	because Big elephants can always understand small elephants 