

Practising Spelling

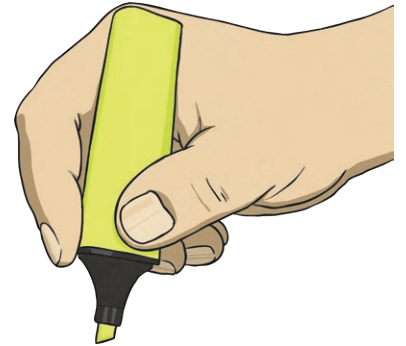
Everyone learns their spellings differently, but here are some ways you can aid your child if they are finding it difficult to spell new words.

- 1 If your child enjoys singing, try singing the letters of the word whenever appropriate. The melody of the song will help the spelling stay in your child's head.



- 2 Give your child a highlighter pen and ask them to highlight the part of a word that is difficult. You may be able to spot patterns in what they are struggling with.

- 3 Try sounding words out rather than writing them out. Some children find it easier to visualise words and are able to tell you the spelling but not necessarily write it down immediately.



- 4 Write each spelling on a sticky note and stick them on a mirror, or somewhere that will be seen most days. The child does not necessarily have to focus intently on the words every day, but seeing them in passing regularly may help the child to remember the spellings.

- 5 Use a 'look, cover, write, check' method: write out the list of problematic words in a column and allow your child to study them. Turn or fold the paper and ask your child to try to rewrite each word correctly (they can look back if they forget the order of the words). Once they have rewritten the words, the child should check these against the original list. Even if they are all correct the first time, it helps to repeat this process so that the spellings are committed to memory long term.

