

## Spelling Strategies

### ❖ Sounding out the word

Sound the word out little by little. If it sounds wrong, try changing the vowel sound from long to short or vice versa. Long or short? Definite - long - de/fine/it (fine as in fine day)  
- short - de/fin/it (fin as in shark's fin)



### ❖ Mnemonics



Make a phrase or a sentence up about a word that you have difficulty spelling.

**Because** - big elephants can always understand small elephants.

**Believe** - believe has a lie in it.

**Parliament** - I am parliament

**Affect/effect** - Raven - Remember, affect = verb, effect = noun.

**Hear** - you hear with your ear.

**Aloud** - a loud noise is always heard.

**Separate** - there is a rat in separate.

### ❖ Picture words

Create pictures from the syllables



= underfoot

Der

### ❖ Highlight helper



Colour in tricky parts of the word - Wednesday, colour.

### ❖ Say it as you spell it

Wed/nes/day, fav/our, dis/tinc/tion (dis tinc tee on). This technique helps with picture words.



### ❖ Chanting's the charm



 Chant or sing the word. Mississippi = Mrs I, Mrs SS I, Mrs SS I, Mrs PP I. Your voice could become louder, higher pitched, deeper, sad, happy or a silly voice. You could make the tone of your voice similar to the meaning

of the word e.g. growl the word furious.

❖ Rap a rhyme

Choose words which rhyme with the one you want in order to help you spell it correctly: flower, tower, power - be careful, as flour is said like flower, but spelt differently.



❖ Post-it aplenty

Write any new vocabulary down on post-it notes and stick them on the furniture which you use everyday e.g. a wall, mirror or door. Your eyes will take in the word without you realising.



❖ Heaven scent

Use your sense of smell to learn a new word and help your memory. A squirt of aftershave, perfume or a drop of food colouring on the word card will trigger your memory and help next time you smell the scent.



❖ Copy Look Cover Write Check

Copy the correct spelling out onto a page, look at the word and memorise it by using the above strategies. Then cover the word and write it down. Uncover the original and check your spelling.



❖ Read more at home

The more you read, the more you will come across new words which will broaden your knowledge. You will take on board spellings and new vocabulary which you can look up in the dictionary. Try reading aloud to yourself or someone else and use the above strategies to help you with any tricky words.



❖ Dictionary Delight

Dictionaries are there to help and they have the correct spelling. Sound out the word and break it up into syllables. Think of the different letter combinations which might make that syllable sound.



❖ Combining letters

Look at letters patterns and rhyme them with words using the same patterns. Make a mnemonic to help you remember. For example, if you can't remember how to spell the number 2, don't learn it with **to, too and two**. Use its 'tw' sound and rhyme it with other 'tw' sounding words e.g. two twins twirled and twisted during the two-step and ignored the twits twittering about twine.

