

Fun things to do with spellings

Silly Sentences

Challenge your child to write a silly sentence, including as many of the words on their spelling list as possible. For example, your child may have to learn 'room took hoop foot book'. They could make up a silly sentence such as 'The boy took his book across the room but got his foot caught in a hoop'. They could draw illustrations to go with their sentence.

Word Snap

Help your child to write each of the words on their spelling list on to a small piece of card or paper. Make two sets of the words. Shuffle the words and then deal them out between you. Keeping the words face down, take it in turns to reveal one word at a time and place it on the table. When two of the same words are turned over, one after the other, the player who spots this shouts 'snap'. At the end of the game, the player with the most pairs of matching words is the winner.

Spot the Word

Challenge your child to find the words on their list in other places around them, for example; in a favourite reading book, on a road sign, on a notice or poster, in a magazine or newspaper, on the television.

Make the Word

Encourage younger children to make the words on their list out of different materials. These could include; magnetic letters, snips from a magazine or newspaper, pipe cleaners, plasticine, felt letters, real dough, play dough or string.

Alphabetical Order

Ask your child to put the words on their spelling list into alphabetical order. You can help them by providing a copy of the alphabet or a simple dictionary. Increase the challenge by setting a time limit.

Mnemonics

Mnemonics are silly sentences that your child can make up and then learn to remind them of how to spell difficult words. Here are some examples;

Because- Big Elephants Can Always Understand Small Elephants

Necessary/ successful- if your child can't remember how many Cs or Ss to use, remember this saying: One collar and two socks are necessary but you will need two collars and two socks to be successful.

Finding words within words

Your child can remember how to spell words by spotting smaller words within them. This can be made even more helpful by making up a short sentence to remember the spelling.

Secretary: secret – a secretary keeps secrets.

If you would like any further advice on how to help your child with their spelling, please contact your child's teacher who will be happy to help.