

Learning Your Spellings

Year 4

How do we know when a spelling has been learned?

- Obviously, weekly spelling tests are the first sign that a spelling has been learnt or not.
- However, a spelling has been truly learnt only when it is used correctly and consistently in independent writing.
- It can also be seen when a spelling rule is used to inform the spelling of unknown words.

Short and long term memory

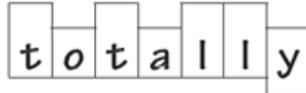
Learning spellings parrot fashion for a test may only place spellings in the short term memory and get a high score. In order for spellings to become part of a long term memory, they need to be used in context, in a variety of ways and over a longer period of time.

Ideas to support learning spellings

- In class the children will be introduced to a new spelling rule and a series of words to learn.
- We use activities such as wordsearches, filling in missing letters, anagrams, mnemonics, quizzes and creative ways to represent the words.

1. Write and practise spellings	Write in best joined handwriting or <u>write</u> as part of a sentence.
2. Write each word using a different colour for each vowel	Eg. <u>Somebody</u>
3. Write each word in a pyramid - one letter on first line, 2 on second line etc	S S O S O M
4. Write each word in bubble writing	
5. Ask an adult to test you on Friday	

You may want to create a rolling programme of activities following the Monday and Friday tasks each week.

2. <u>Build</u> a wall using bricks which are taller or smaller for ascenders and descender letters.	
3. Draw a picture to help you remember what the word means.	
4. Write the word forwards and backwards. As if it is in a mirror.	Mirror/ <u>rorriM</u>

2. Use all of the words in 3 silly sentences.

3. Write each word with a line instead of a vowel. Can you look back the next day to add the missing vowels?

Sp-ll-ng

4. Add the missing vowels from your Wednesday task.

Spelling