

# Teaching Spelling in KS1 at Windy Nook

In school we want our children to become confident spellers who are resilient enough to have a go at unfamiliar words using a variety of strategies. Spelling is part of our daily English lesson and is reinforced in other subjects including Maths. Phonics lessons are also part of the school day in KS1 with some children joining extra interventions to boost their learning.

The support you give your child to embed these strategies is crucial. The following slides offer information about spelling in Year 1 and 2 with ideas to support this learning.

Children who struggle with spelling usually have **no strategies** up their sleeve when they get stuck on a word. Ask any weak spellers the question, 'what do you do when you cannot spell a word'. They will have, at best, one strategy. But it is most likely that they guess. To help them become better spellers they need to **acquire a range of different approaches to help them.**

*Pie Corbett*

# What makes a good speller?

Good visible memory

Recognise rhyme and rhythm

Distinguish sounds around them

Oral blending and segmenting

Observe order of events

Rules/conventions/strategies

Exceptions/tricky words

Link letters with sounds

Inflected endings

Positive attitude

Perseverance

Syllables

Hold a pencil

Recognise parts of a whole

Recognising Patterns

Alphabet - sounds and names

Prefixes/suffixes

RWI Phonics

# Good Spellers Apply:

- ✓ Phonics
- ✓ Words within words
- ✓ Grammatical knowledge
- ✓ Memory and experience
- ✓ Existing knowledge
- ✓ Synonyms

Children need to be able to use phonics to spell accurately.

## Complex Speed Sounds

### Consonant sounds

f	l	m	n	r	s	v	z	sh	th	ng
ff	ll	mm	nn	rr	ss	ve	zz	ti		nk
ph	le	mb	kn	wr	se		s	ci		
					c		se			
					ce					

b	c	d	g	h	j	p	qu	t	w	x	y	ch
bb	k	dd	gg		g	pp		tt	wh			tch
	ck				ge							
	ch				dge							

### Vowel sounds

a	e	i	o	u	ay	ee	igh	ow
	ea				ā-e	y	ī-e	ō-e
					ai	ea	ie	oa
						e	i	o
							y	

oo	oo	ar	or	air	ir	ou	oy	ire	ear	ure
ū-e			oor	are	ur	ow	oi			
ue			ore		er					
ew			aw							
			au							

### Year 1 common exception words

the, a, do, to, today, of, said, says,  
are, were, was, is, his, has, I, you,  
your, they, be, he, me, she, we, no,  
go, so, by, my, here, there, where,  
love, come, some, one, once, ask,  
friend, school, put, push, pull, full,  
house, our

### Year 2 common exception words

door, floor, poor, because, find, kind, mind,  
behind, child, children, wild, climb, most,  
only, both, old, cold, gold, hold, told, every,  
everybody, even, great, break, steak, pretty,  
beautiful, after, fast, last, past, father, class,  
grass, pass, plant, path, bath, hour, move,  
prove, improve, sure, sugar, eye, could,  
should, would, who, whole, any, many,  
clothes, busy, people, water, again, half,  
money, Mr, Mrs, parents, Christmas

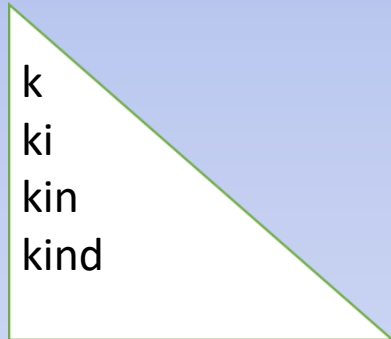
Learning how to read and spell these words helps children with their pace and confidence in writing.

There are lots of strategies that can be used to teach children to spell. They don't have to always depend on sitting down with paper and pen. The more creative the better.

- Use chalk to write the word on the pavement
- How many times can you write the word in 1 minute? Can you beat your score?
- Chunk the word into smaller parts.
- Look, say, trace, cover, write check.
- Mnemonics- said (sausages and insects dance
- Think of other words with the same pattern- night, fight, right...
- Say it as you spell it- pe-o-ple
- Look at the word shape. Does it look right?
- Underline the tricky part.
- Find smaller words inside the word. Eg. Teacher- each, ache, tea, her
- Use a different colour to highlight the tricky part of the word.
- Use different materials: paint, clay, sandpaper, play dough, felt tips...
- Look at the word and practise visualising it (see it behind your eyes)



- For longer words- write the word and cut it into syllables. Put it back together in the correct order.
- Play hangman
- Write it in different letters such as bubble writing.
- Cursive handwriting helps children to connect letters within words.
- Record your own voice spelling and saying the word.
- Teach it to somebody else.
- Write it in different colours on sticky notes and put them where you can see them.
- Rainbow spellings- write the word and overwrite it using a different colour each time.
- Write the words and highlight the vowels in red pencil.
- Triangle spellings.



- Use scrabble letters. Take turns to take a letter out of a bag until you can spell the word with the letters.
- Make a picture



*Some words lend themselves better to particular strategies:*

Big Elephants Can Always Understand Small  
Elephants = Because

You wouldn't want to FRI the END of your  
friend! = Friend

We went TO GET HER = Together

## Other strategies:

- Compound words

grand + mother = grandmother

Every + where = everywhere

Some + thing = something

- Words within words

hear

when

there

# What can you do to help ?

Spend some time helping - little and often is best

Play games - make it as fun and enjoyable as possible

Lots of encouragement and praise!

# Some useful websites:

<https://spellingframe.co.uk/>

[http://funschool.kaboose.com/globe-rider/explorer-adventures/games/game\\_atonra\\_the\\_lost\\_statue.html](http://funschool.kaboose.com/globe-rider/explorer-adventures/games/game_atonra_the_lost_statue.html)

<http://www.kidsspell.com/>

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2literacy.html>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/wordsandpictures/longvow/poems/fpoem.shtml>

<http://www.funbrain.com/kidscenter.htm>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/spellits/>

<http://www.parentsintouch.co.uk/Spelling-worksheets>