



Giffnock Primary School

Spelling Homework Guidance

Primary 5

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Over the course of the school week your child will be taught new spelling rule(s) and sounds. Each Monday new words following the same spelling rule(s) that the children have been learning about in class will be sent home. Approximately five words following the rule and two/ three common words will be written down in a spelling homework jotter.

During the school session, your child will be introduced to a variety of common words which help children with their reading and written work. These words do not follow rules/ sound patterns and so have to be learnt separately as whole words. We will also revisit Primary 4 Common Words to consolidate learning of these.

Over the page, you will find a range of activities, games and websites through which you can practise the spelling of these words. Please focus on having fun with the spelling rule/ pattern. You can choose one or more of these to practise with and remember that little and often is the best way to learn; this might be on the walk to school, in the car, or even when out walking your dog! Whenever works best for you.

Common Words




Gold Words (P4)

high, every, near, between, own, below, country, school, father, never, start, city, earth, eyes, light, thought, head, under, story, saw, left, don't, few, while, along, might, close, something, next, open, example, begin, life, always, those, both, paper, together, group, often, important, until, children, side, mile, night, walk, white, began, grow, took, river, carry, state, once, hear, without, second, later, miss, idea, enough, eat, face, watch, real, almost, above, girl, sometimes, mountains, young, talk, list, song, being, leave, family.

Platinum Words (P5)

body, music, colour, stand, questions, fish, area, mark, horse, birds, problem, complete, room, knew, since, ever, piece, told, usually, didn't, friends, easy, heard, order, door, sure, become, ship, across, today, during, short, better, best, however, low, hours, black, products, happened, whole, measure, remember, early, waves, reached, listen, wind, rock, space, covered, fast, several, hold, himself, toward, step, morning, passed, vowel, true, hundred, against, pattern, numeral, table, north, slowly, money, farm, pulled, draw, voice, seen, cold, cried, plan, notice, south, sing, war, ground, fall, kind, town, I'll, unit, figure, certain, field, travel, wood, fire, upon, east, west.

Activities and Games

<p>Countdown Display a list of words your child has been given to learn, one underneath the other. Explain to your child that the object of this activity is to read as many words as possible before the stop watch/ alarm signals 'stop'. Start the timer and point to the first word. Get set... go! Good luck! Who is the fastest in your house?</p> 	<p>Snakes and Ladders Use ordinary snakes and ladders and put sound cards/ words on each square and play as usual. If they get it right, they go up the ladder, if they get it wrong, they go down the snake. Alternatively, cards of sounds could just be on a pile and taken when your child lands on a snake or ladder.</p>
<p>Dictionary Challenge Ask your child to find as many words in the dictionary that follow a specific spelling pattern/ rule. Challenge another family member to find as many words as possible in a set time – the most words wins.</p> 	<p>Battleships Make a grid with your child and choose your words from the common word list to use. Plot your words on the axes using co-ordinates and then choose co-ordinates to see if you can find your partners hidden words.</p>
<p>Words within words Ask your child to try to find smaller words inside each of their spelling words without rearranging the letters, e.g. using the word 'practising', you could find – 'act' 'sing' 'in' 'is'. Set a time limit, say 10 minutes, for your child to find as many as possible using all their spelling words.</p> 	<p>Hunt the words Look for other words with the same rule and find out their meaning using a dictionary. Can you find them in magazines, comic books or newspapers? You can even see if you can make up silly sentences using them (this can be recorded in the homework jotter or orally).</p>
<p>Mnemonics Make up mnemonics and explain why they are used e.g. <u>b</u>ig <u>e</u>lephants <u>c</u>an <u>a</u>lways <u>u</u>nderstand <u>s</u>mall <u>e</u>lephants → <u>b</u>ecause</p> 	<p>Wordsearch or Crossword Using squared paper, help your child <u>make</u> a wordsearch or crossword with their spelling words then give to another member of the family to try and solve it.</p>

Suggested Websites & Apps

Spellwick - The Magical Spelling Game (App)

Spelling Hangman (App)

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/advice-for-parents/help-with-spelling/>

<https://www.e4education.co.uk/primary/games>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>