



A GUIDE TO SPELLING

HOMEWORK

There are a variety of different activities children can do at home. Pupils will be directed by the class teacher on what activities will be done each week. Listed below are some of the tasks your child may be asked to do.

SPELLING TASKS

SILLY SENTENCES - Write silly sentences using a spelling word in each sentence. Underline the spelling words.

HIDDEN WORDS - Draw and colour a picture. Hide your spelling words inside the picture.

ABC ORDER - First write the spelling words in a list. Then write them in ABC order.

STORY, STORY - Write a story using ALL of your spelling words. Remember to underline the spelling words.



VOWELS - Trace over the vowels in each word using a coloured pencil.

ACROSTIC POEM - Choose one of your spelling words. Write an acrostic poem for that word.

SUPERMAN LETTER - Write a creative letter to Superman (or another superhero). Use each of your spelling words in the letter. Underline the spelling words.

30 SECOND WORDS - Write a TV commercial using all of your spelling words.

CODE WORDS - Come up with a code for each letter of the alphabet. Write down your code (a=b=c=). Then write the spelling words in code. Write the actual spelling word next to the code.

SECRET AGENT WORDS - Number the alphabet from 1-26. Example: (a=1 b=2 c=3 d=4 etc). Then convert the words to a number code. Write the actual spelling word next to the "code word".

CHOO-CHOO WORDS - Write the entire list end-to-end as one long word (like a train). Use a different coloured crayon for each word.

WORDS WITHOUT CONSONANTS - Write all your spelling words in a list, but replace all the consonants with a line. Go back to the beginning of the list and try to fill in the missing consonants.

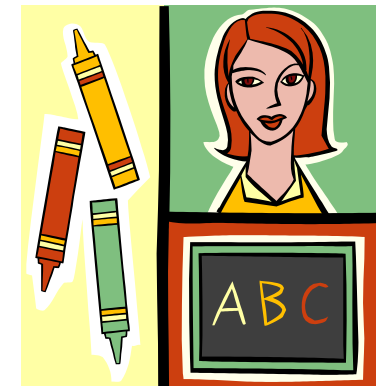
WORDS WITHOUT VOWELS - Write the spelling words on a list, replace all the vowels with a line. Go back to the beginning of the list and try to fill in the missing vowels.



This is only a selection of the tasks your child may be asked to complete.

Only with your support can we continue to improve

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.



Promoting Partnership between home and school

Introduction

At Stepps Primary our approach to spelling is based on techniques and strategies recommended to us by the Literacy Base within North Lanarkshire Council.

In Primary 1 to 3 we teach phonics and spelling as two separate subject areas to enhance the pupil's skills in word building, reading, writing and spelling. From Primary 4, these two areas are combined and children continue to develop their phonemic awareness and understanding through a structured and comprehensive programme that aims to build confidence and engage children in their learning in an enjoyable and interactive way.

The programme aims to provide a logical approach to the process of Phonics into Spelling. It consists of 15 units with each unit concentrating on a specific focus phoneme. Over a ten day period the teacher will:

- Introduce the focus phoneme
 - Give feedback and involve children in partner work
 - Model the splitting of phonemes using elkonin boxes
 - Introduce the LOOK, THINK and INVESTIGATE strategy
 - Involve children in Reciprocal Teaching through Partner Spelling and Dictation
 - Introduce and model the Diacritical Marking Code and Methodology
- Diacritical marking involves investigating words- recognising and identifying which phonemes are contained within each word
- Involve the children in Diacritical Marking
 - Introduce the Phoneme Story for the focus phoneme and involve the children in identifying this phoneme within the text
 - Monitor, support and assess children's efforts in Diacritical Marking in particular.

Spelling Strategies

There are a number of strategies teachers use to help children with their spelling:

SYLLABIFICATION : breaking words into syllables. Each syllable will contain a vowel.

going go ing
remember re mem ber
yesterday yes ter day

MNEMONIC : Make up a mnemonic for your spelling word

Because Big elephants can always understand
small elephants.
Could oh you lucky duck
Separate there is a rat in separate

WORDS WITHIN WORDS : How many words can you find inside your word?

country count try
example exam ample

COMPOUND WORDS : Can you divide your word into two or more words e.g.

meanwhile mean while
breakfast break fast
homework home work

ANALOGY : Does your word have the same spelling pattern as another word?

'ight' (light, fright, sight).

SPELLING RULES

There are a number of spelling rules to help children to remember how to spell.

i before e except after c

'q' is always followed by 'u'. Together they make the sound 'kw'. (queen)

Soft 'c'- coming before 'e' (face) 'i' (cider) 'y' (fancy)

Soft 'g' - coming before 'e' (judge) 'i' (ginger) 'y' (gypsy)

drop the e and add ing (ride = riding)

add es to words ending in s, ss, x or z to make them plural e.g. dress - dresses, mix- mixes.

Home/School Partnership

As we all know, pupil's progress is helped when home and school work together.

What can you do to help?

Encourage your child to read as much as possible

Ask your child what words they were spelling today

Provide opportunities for your child to write at home, e.g. shopping lists, thank you letters etc. Encourage your child to have a go at writing words