Multi-sensory Techniques

Set out the letters of the word to learn, jumbled with 2 or 3 extra letters. Look at a flashcard with word on. Spell word using names out loud. Spell word out loud again, this time arranging plastic letters to make word as you say the names. Now jumble part of the word up. Hide the flashcard and make word again, saying letter names out loud as you do so. Check your spelling with the flashcard. Hide the card again. Try and spell the whole word. Check with flashcard. Now try and write the word from memory saying names out loud as you do.

Look-say-cover-write-check

Look at the word. Are there any words within words, any patterns you already know? Say letter names out loud.
Cover word and write from memory. (it will help if you say names out loud as you write).
Check your own spelling. Talk out loud to yourself about any mistake made.



Please contact me if you would like any more Information.

Sian Everson 2011



Learning Spellings

Information for Parents



Use Your Eyes

Look at the word. Close your eyes. Look up and to the left (or right if you are left handed). See the word in your mind Now write it

Write the word in bold bubble writing. Write the word inside again and again using different coloured pens. Now write it from memory.

Draw a picture to help you link the meaning and write the word next to the picture. Look at it often during the day. Write it from memory at the end of the day.

Make the word in plastic letters and put it somewhere obvious e.g. on the fridge. Every time you pass the fridge, muddle word and make it again. After a while, write word from memory.

"Highlight" the "tricky" bits of the word to be learnt with a coloured highlighter pen. Look carefully at the tricky bit.



Use Your Ears

Say the word you want to spell out loud. Some words can be "sounded" if phonically regular others can be said by using letter names. Try both to see which works best for you. Let yourself say the spelling out loud, or whispered under your breath every time you write the word.

Say the names of the letters in the word you want to spell. Say them in "chunks", emphasising the last letter of each chunk.

Try "singing" the word to be spelt out loud.

Set a timer to beep every 15 seconds for 2 minutes. At each beep, spell the word out loud. After 2 minutes write the word down whilst spelling it out loud.

Record yourself spelling the word. Say the word first, then how to spell it. Listen to your recording regularly. Use it to test yourself.



Use Your Body

Put plastic letters to spell the word on a table. Finger trace over the word. Jumble word up. Make word again. Pay attention to how the word feels. Can you make the word with your eyes closed?

Stand up . Do a movement whilst saying the first "chunk" of a word, e.g. walk forward for o-x-y . Then do a different movement for next bit of word e.g. walk backwards for g-e-n. Practice spelling word out loud doing the same movements each time.

Clap the rhythm of the word saying the names at the same time. When you feel confident write word in the same rhythm saying it as you write.

Write the word with your finger on any surface that "feels" interesting, e.g. carpet, bumpy wall paper, sand paper (don't press too hard!!!) Do it again with your eyes closed. Feel the shape of the word. Try and write "joined up" as this will help your body remember. Now write with a pen on paper from memory.

Design dance steps, one step for each letter of word you want to spell. Say word out loud and "move" your dance each time you practice the spelling. Now "think" the dance in your head as you write the word down.

Use plastic letters to spell out your word. Now separate out the letters. Think of a silly sentence which could help you remember the order of the word e.g. Sad Ants In Dustbins for "said" Draw a picture of the sentence. Keep saying phrase as you move plastic letters to spell word. Look at the sentence and picture regularly to help you remember. This is a useful technique for words that can't be sounded out.