



Look, say, cover, write, check

Look: first look at the whole word carefully and if there is one part of the word that is difficult, look at that part in more detail.

Say: say the word as you look at it, using different ways of pronouncing it if that will make it more memorable.

Cover: cover the word.

Write: write the word from memory, saying the word as you do so.

Check: Have you got it right? If yes, try writing it again and again! If not, start again – look, say, cover, write, check.

Tracing

This is about developing muscle memory.

- Write the word out on a sheet of paper ensuring that it is spelt correctly, and it is large enough to trace over.
- Trace over the word and say it at the same time.
- Repeat this lots of times!

Drawing around the word to show the shape

Draw around the words making a clear distinction in size where there are ascenders and descenders. Look carefully at the shape of the word and the letters in each box. Now try to write the word making sure that you get the same shape.



The 'y' in eye has a descender as it goes below the line. The 'h' has an ascender as it is a tall letter.

Make your own box word sheets

You can make your own empty box sheets for free at the following website:

<http://tools.atozteacherstuff.com/printable-word-shapes-worksheets/>

Word List:

because	poor	door	kind	find	floor
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Drawing an image around the word

This strategy is all about making a word memorable. It links to meaning in order to try to make the spelling noticeable.



You can't use this method as your main method of learning spellings, but it might work on those that are just a little more difficult to remember.

Words without vowels

This strategy is useful where the vowel choices are the challenge in the words. Write the words without the vowels and your child has to write the correct grapheme to put in the space. For example, for the word *field*:

f__ld

Pyramid words

This method of learning words forces you to think of each letter separately.

p
py
pyr
pyra
pyram
pyrami
pyramid

You can then reverse the process so that you end up with a diamond.

Rainbow writing

Write the words out numerous times using different colours for each letter:

climb

Or write the whole word in one colour then write it over the top in another colour. Repeat a few times.

Silly sentences

Make up a silly sentence using each letter of a word to help memorise it:

because: big elephants can't always use small exits

Saying words

Saying the word in a funny way – for example, pronouncing the 'silent' letters in a word or saying the word as it looks e.g. was = "waz".

The majority of these strategies have been taken from the 'No Nonsense Year 2 Spelling Programme'.