

# Herne Bay Junior School Spelling



Each week, you will be focusing on one or two different spelling rules / word lists in lessons at school.

At the end of the term, there will be a giant spelling challenge, where you will be asked to spell all of the words on your spelling card.

You need to remember to practise your spellings at home regularly, so that you know each of the spelling rules.

Here are some ideas and tips to help you to practise the rules...

## **Find more words with the same pattern:**

Look carefully at the rule or pattern you are focusing on this week. Use the dictionary or an internet search to try to find as many words as you can that follow the same rule. Can you find any exceptions to the rule?

## **Whiteboard finger:**

Write your spelling words on the whiteboard on the back of your homework diary using whiteboard pen, and then draw over the word with your finger to rub it out. Your brain will get used to the pattern of the letters, even if your finger gets a bit dirty!

## **Write on different surfaces:**

Write your spelling words on different surfaces with your finger. Your brain will get used to the pattern of the letters.

## **Newspaper ransom note:**

Cut out different letters from newspapers and magazines to make each of your spelling words and glue them together.



### **Mnemonics:**

Think of a phrase or set of words to help you to remember your word, using each of the letters in the word to complete the phrase. *E.g. s-a-i-d = silly ants in dustbins*

### **Split your word into syllables:**

Chunk your spelling words into syllables and think of mnemonics or other ways to help you to learn each of the sections of the word.

### **Look for words in the words:**

See how many smaller words you can find hidden in your spelling words. *E.g. 'piece' has pie hiding in it - remember 'a piece of pie'.*

### **Make up a song:**

Use a familiar tune (like 'happy birthday') to sing the letters in the words you are learning to spell.

### **Spell backwards:**

Once you are really good at spelling the word, challenge yourself to see if you can spell it backwards!

### **Play hangman with a friend or an adult:**

Ask someone to draw a line for each of the letters in your word and see if you can guess the spelling by trying different letters before the other player draws the hangman!

### **Letter scramble:**

Write each of the letters of your spelling word on a different piece of card or paper and time yourself to see how fast you can put the words back together again.

### **Highlight the tricky part:**

Decide what the tricky part in the words are and highlight them. If the rest of the word is easy to spell, you'll only have a small chunk to learn!



### **Write the words in bubble letters or graffiti:**

Once you've turned your spelling words into works of art, display them in your room or around the house and your brain will start to remember what they look like.

### **Spelling selfies:**

Take a video of yourself saying or singing the letters of your spelling words out loud, or of you writing your spellings, then keep playing it back to yourself to help it to stick in your head.

### **Spelling snap:**

Copy your spelling words twice on to different cards. Play with a partner. When the same word comes up twice, whoever shouts 'snap' first wins that pair, but only if they can spell the word on the card without looking at it.

### **Spelling bingo:**

Copy your spelling words onto bingo grids. The caller should pick one of your spellings and say it aloud, and if you have that word on your card, provided you can spell it, (out loud or by writing it down) you can cover that word on your card with a counter or piece of paper. The first player to cover a whole row wins the game.

### **Look, say, cover, write, check:**

Look carefully at your spelling word, say it out loud, cover it up, write it from memory, then check to see whether you got it correct.

### **Card / board games:**

Design a spelling board game (write 'spell a word' in lots of the blank spaces) and play this game with another person to help you to learn your spellings. If you land on 'spell a word' your partner gets to pick one for you to spell. If you get it correct, you can stay on that space, but if you get it wrong, you have to move back X number of spaces. Once you have made the game, you could use it for any list of words. There is a blank board game for you to print out on the next page...



Here is the blank track for you to make your own spelling board game. If you don't have a dice at home, write the numbers 1-6 on pieces of paper, put them face down and take it in turns to turn one over to see how many spaces you can move.

A blank track for a spelling board game, consisting of a series of rectangular boxes arranged in a path. The path starts at a box labeled "start" on the right side and ends at a box labeled "Finish" on the left side. The path is composed of 24 boxes in total, arranged in a zig-zag pattern: 6 boxes in the top row, 1 box in the second row, 6 boxes in the third row, 1 box in the fourth row, 6 boxes in the fifth row, 1 box in the sixth row, and 6 boxes in the seventh row. The "start" and "Finish" boxes are rounded rectangles.