

Activities to help your child to learn spellings

- set out letters (e.g. plastic, wooden, magnetic) of the alphabet in an arc - use to word build - adult to select letters from arc which will make a word using a spelling pattern being currently taught - to arrange letters in correct order, with adult repeating word as necessary
- read and write words (e.g. on white board, in salt or sand tray)
- air writing (large movements of hand in air, makes the spelling a gross motor activity)
- water pistol - as above but write the words with a water pistol (suitable for hot weather?)
- dictation of words and sentences using the target words or spelling patterns being learned; get the child to repeat the sentence before writing it. This activity helps the child to use the spellings in context
- look for words containing phonic patterns being taught e.g. in newspapers, comics etc. Highlight with highlighter pen
- look for words within words as above
- tracking, word searches, word-shapes of words
- ask the child to select letters from alphabet arc for adult to spell word
- speed and accuracy (reading) - to beat their own time in reading accurately a list of words containing spelling pattern being taught - also use with high frequency words
- speed and accuracy (spelling) - as above but target is to beat number of words they can spell in one minute