

5 Ways You Can Help Your Child With Their Spelling

1

Choose Five Words

Discuss with your child what words they are struggling with and help them decide on approximately five words that they would like to focus on for the coming week.

2

Let them have a go!

Ask your child to attempt to spell each word themselves. Help them to sound it out and break up the word, taking it one letter at a time. After this, let them see the word correctly spelt to help them 'visualise' it and learn the correct spelling.

3

Spell it out loud!

Help your child to visualise the word in order to spell it aloud, one letter at a time. Encourage them to keep on practising whenever you can, whether it's in the car, at the store or on the way to school. If you find your child is struggling to remember the spelling, you could also try over pronouncing the word as a strategy to help them remember the spelling.

4

Practise makes perfect!

Spend time with your child crafting homemade 'scrabble tiles' or letter 'flash cards' for each word they are learning to spell. Spell the words together before jumbling up the letters and asking them to try it themselves. Encourage them to practise this on their own. If your child finds this difficult, work together to piece the word by syllable by syllable to help them sound it out in sections. You could also combine spelling practise with fun activities and exercises.

5

Reading develops great spelling!

It is a proven fact that reading helps children to improve their spelling and also their understanding of words. Encourage your child to read every day, whether it's for ten minutes or half an hour, it all helps! It is also beneficial to keep a dictionary to hand in which you and your child can look up unfamiliar words together.