

# Cherry Tree Primary



## Spelling Ideas



**Parent Workshop**  
**Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

## Parents Workshop

### Spelling Ideas

#### **1. FLASH CARDS**

Pupils quickly write out words on flash cards making sure that they have the correct spellings. One person reads aloud from a card and the person writes the word on a whiteboard/piece of paper. This time when they say 'show me', one shows the correct spelling on the card and the other shows their attempt on the whiteboard. Take turns reading or spelling.

#### **2. DEFINITIONS**

Children are given one dictionary and work to find and write the definition of each word. By using a selection of dictionaries, children can then share and compare definitions.

#### **3. SPELLING ALOUD**

Using flashcards, as above, one child reads a word aloud. Their partner spells the word out loud. If they spell correctly, they 'win' the card. If they are incorrect, the card is put to the bottom of the pile. Children take turns and the 'winner' is the one who has most cards at the end of the game.

#### **4. SPELLING TENNIS**

You may have seen this one on the television programme 'Hardspell'. Older children really enjoy this one as it can be quite challenging. Children work with someone at home. One takes on the role of both 'reader' and 'checker'. The other spells the word by saying alternative letters until the whole word is spelt. If a mistake is made, the checker stops the game and shows the correct spelling. The word is then spelt again and then put to the bottom of the pile. Correct words are discarded. Take turns to be the checker.

#### **5. ALPHABETICAL ORDER**

Children write out spelling list in alphabetical order. This activity is best used with children in the middle and upper stages. It is particularly effective at making them look closely at the spelling of words that begin with the same letter eg when learning common words.

#### **6. MUDDLED LETTERS**

Children rewrite each of the spelling words in a muddled up fashion eg 'beautiful' could be written 'befitualu'. It is better if they always put the initial letter in the correct place. This is a great activity, as children have to scrutinise each word to make sure they have got all the correct letters. These muddled lists are then swapped with someone and children have to rewrite each word correctly.

## 7. DICTIONARY RACE

Children need a dictionary. Take turns to call out one of the spelling words which is then hidden. The idea is to be the first to locate the word in the dictionary. This not only helps them to remember how to spell, it is also excellent for practising dictionary skills. You can turn it into a game by giving counters to win.

## 8. SYLLABLES

Children split their spelling words into syllables eg beau-ti-ful.

Again close attention to details is needed so it helps them to retain more difficult spellings.

## 9. WORDS WITHIN WORDS

Children try to find smaller words inside each of their spelling words without rearranging the letters. Eg. using the word 'practising' , you could find - 'act' 'sing' 'in' 'is'. Set a time limit, say 10 minutes, to find as many as possible using all their spelling words.

## 10. SILLY STORY

Children write a short story (about a paragraph) using as many of their spelling words as possible. Again, set a time limit of about 10 minutes. Stories can be brought to school and shared!

## 11. KIM'S GAME

This game can be played in a small group. Spelling words are written on cards and laid out on the table. Children study the words. They then look away and a nominated person removes *one* of the cards. Children turn back, look at the remaining cards and have 2 minutes (use an egg timer) to write the missing word on a whiteboard which they keep hidden. All the guesses are then revealed at the same time. If they are correct, they win a point, but only if it is spelt correctly!

## 12. MAGNETIC LETTERS

Working together, younger pupils would first look at a word from their list or from a flash card, cover it and then make their word using magnetic letters. This would continue until all the words are displayed.

## 13. WORDSEARCH

Using squared paper, children make a wordsearch with their spelling words. Words are NOT written out underneath. They need to look really closely to make sure that they haven't made a mistake and that they have included all their words. Bring them to school to share!

## 14. MNEMONICS

Show the children an example of a mnemonic and explain why they are used eg big elephants can always understand small elephants because

Working together, try to make up a mnemonic for one or two of their trickiest spelling words. A time limit should be set - again about 10 minutes.

### 15. LUCKY DIP

Children take turns to pick out 12 plastic letters from a bag. They mustn't look into the bag, as it is 'lucky dip'. The picked letters are placed in front of them and the rest of the letters are left in the bag. The idea is to make one of their spelling words out of the letters. The children take turns to pick one new letter out of the bag and discard one that they don't want any more. This carries on until someone has the right letters to make one of their spelling words.

### 16. GUESS THE WORD

Work together, children choose one of their spelling words, and then write one letter on a whiteboard at a time. They can begin *anywhere* in the word - it does not have to be at the beginning. The other person tries to guess the word after each letter is added. If they guess correctly, they must spell the whole word to win the points. The fewer letters that have been given - the more points to be won.

### 17. CROSSWORD

Using squared paper, children make a crossword using their spelling words. Definitions are written below to form the clues.

### 18. DRAGON'S DINNER

Children have counters, one for each of their target words. They take turns in spelling. If they make a misspelling, they lose a counter to the dragon. The dragon can be someone with a list of the words and the dragon can be a picture/model. How much dinner does the dragon get?

### 19. FIND THE WORD

Children are given a highlighter pen and piece of text, for example a newspaper or advert. Children try to find one of spelling words and highlight it. They can then change colour and look for another word from their list.

### 20. JIGSAW

Children choose one or two spelling words and write each of them onto a strip of card. This is repeated several times. Each card is then cut into sections - see below

H	i	p	p	o	t	a	m	u	s
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

H	i	p	p	o	t	a	m	u	s
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

H	i	p	p	o	t	a	m	u	s
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

H	i	p	p	o	t	a	m	u	s
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Pieces are then muddled up, the challenge being to see how quickly they can be put back together.

### Tips

\* **Try finger-writing:** while you're THINKing about the word, pretend to write it with your finger, on your desk or on your hand.

**Mnemonics** are useful for particularly tricky words, or for key spelling patterns:

- Ould – **Oh, you, lucky duck** (should, could, would)
- Ound – **Oh you naughty duck** (ground, found)
- Laugh – **Laugh At Ugly Goat Hair**
- Because – **Big Elephants Can Always Understand Small Elephants**

## Spelling Menu

Choose one activity to complete each night on your own notebook paper. You may not complete the same activity twice in one week.

<p><b>Rainbow Write</b></p> <p>First, write the words in pencil. Then trace over them in two different colors.</p>	<p><b>Silly Sentences</b></p> <p>Write silly sentences using a spelling word in each sentence. Underline the spelling words and write neatly!</p>	<p><b>Hidden Words</b></p> <p>Draw and color a picture. Hide your spelling words inside the picture. See if someone can find your hidden words!</p>	<p><b>Backwards Words</b></p> <p>Write your spelling words forwards and then backwards! Remember to write neatly!</p>
<p><b>Waterfall Words</b></p> <p>Example: c ca cat catc catch</p>	<p><b>ABC Order</b></p> <p>Write your spelling words in ABC order. If words start with the same letter, look at the next letter.</p>	<p><b>Story, Story</b></p> <p>Write a story using ALL of your spelling words. Be sure to underline your spelling words in the paragraph.</p>	<p><b>Fancy Words</b></p> <p>Write your words using fancy letters 2x! Example: <i>catch</i> <i>catch</i></p>
<p><b>Three Times</b></p> <p>First, write each word in pencil. Then, write each word in crayon. Finally, write each word in marker!</p>	<p><b>Adding My Words</b></p> <p>Vowels are 10 and consonants are 5. Write your words and then add the value of each word. Ex. cat 5+10+5=20</p>	<p><b>Riddle Me</b></p> <p>Write a riddle for each of your words. Don't forget to answer them. Ex: I am cute. I wear diapers. Answer: baby</p>	<p><b>Rhyming Words</b></p> <p>Write each of your spelling words with a rhyming word next to them. Ex: cut shut</p>
<p><b>Code Words</b></p> <p>Come up with a code for each letter of the alphabet. Then write your words in code. Ex: A = ✕ B = ■ C = ☉ Write out the word.</p>	<p><b>UPPER and Lower</b></p> <p>Write your words one time with all uppercase letters and one time with all lowercase letters.</p>	<p><b>Colorful Words</b></p> <p>Write each of your spelling words. Write each letter using a different color. Ex. c a t</p>	<p><b>Choo Choo Words</b></p> <p>Write the entire list end-to-end as one long word. Write each new word in a different color. Ex. <i>trainbackstop</i></p>
<p><b>Magazine Words</b></p> <p>Use an old magazine or newspaper and find your words or letters that make up words. Glue them down.</p>	<p><b>Words Within Words</b></p> <p>Write each spelling word and then write at least two words made from that word. Ex: <b>catch</b> cat hat</p>	<p><b>Words Without Vowels</b></p> <p>Write all of your words replacing vowels with a line. Go back and see if you can fill in the vowels.</p>	<p><b>Other Handed</b></p> <p>First, write your words with the way you usually do. Then, write the list using your other hand!</p>

1* Make a wordsearch with your words. List them underneath.	2* Write a sentence for each word to explain its meaning.	3* Write rhymes for each of your words.	4* Write your words on cards. Select 6 to put on a bingo grid. Turn cards over one by one. If you have word and can spell it, you can cover it.
5* Play charades with your words. When someone has guessed the word, spell it.	6* Put your words to a number code e.g. A=1, B=2	7* Arrange your words in alphabetical order.	8* Use each of your words in a silly sentence. Underline the word used.
9* Sit back to back with a partner and test your words.	10* Write your words in different fonts and colours.	11* Write out your words, cut into parts that help you to learn them and glue them in.	12* Design a board game to play with your words. Write the rules too.
13* Illustrate each of your words with a picture.	14* Play hangman with a partner using your words.	15* Paint your words with paint (in the book) or water (outside).	16* Write your words in colourful bubble writing.