

Spelling Strategies:

Look, say, cover, write, check This is probably the most common strategy used to learn spellings.

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.

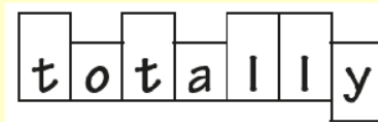
Write: write the word from memory, saying the word as you do so.

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

Segmentation strategy The splitting of a word into its constituent phonemes in the correct order to support spelling.

Quickwrite Writing the words linked to the teaching focus with speed and fluency. The aim is to write as many words as possible within a time constraint.

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.



Drawing an image around the word This strategy is all about making a word memorable. It links to meaning to make the spelling noticeable. You can't use this as your main method, just for those that are just a little more difficult to remember.



Acronyms Make a sentence where each word starts with the next letter in the word you are trying to spell.

because = **b**ig **e**lephants **c**an **a**lways **u**nderstand **s**mall **e**lephants

Words without vowels This strategy is useful where the vowel choices are the challenge in the words. Write the words without the vowels and pupils have to choose 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. You can then reverse the process so that you end up with a diamond.

p
py
pyr
pyra
pyram
pyrami
pyramid

Rainbow writing Using coloured pencils in different ways can help to make parts of words memorable. You could highlight the tricky parts of the word or write the tricky part in a different colour. You could also write each letter in a different colour.

Silly sentences Making up memorable 'silly sentences' containing the word to help you remember how to spell it.