

Spelling Strategies



Learning a few sample strategies can help students become better spellers. Teach the strategies one at a time using appropriate words from the spelling lists. List each strategy on a chart as it is introduced. Post the chart as a helpful reminder to students. Review the strategies frequently to help students internalize them.

Say a word correctly.	Don't leave out or mispronounce sounds. Write the sounds in the correct order.
Think about what the word looks like.	Think about how the spelling pattern looks. Write it, look at it, and decide if it is correct.
Look for small words in spelling words.	spin- <i>pin, in</i> cupcake- <i>cup, cake</i>
Use rhyming words to help spell a word.	If you can spell book, You can spell look.
Use rules for adding endings.	Drop silent e before adding a suffix. Double the final consonant before adding a suffix.
Think about what the word means.	Some words sound the same, but have different meanings and are spelled in different ways. Match the spelling with its meaning.
Use outside help.	Use charts, banners, and lists around the classroom. Ask someone for help. Use a personal spelling dictionary.

