



SPELLING WORKSHOP

Wednesday 29th January 2025

Welcome

Welcome to the Ocean Academy Spelling Workshop! This session is designed to equip you with practical tips, strategies, and activities to support your child's spelling journey. Spelling is an essential part of developing strong writing skills and building confidence in communication. Today, we'll explore:

- The importance of spelling.
- Key KS2 spelling patterns and rules.
- Fun and engaging ways to practice spelling at home.

I hope you leave with useful tools and feel inspired to make spelling practice enjoyable and effective for your child.



Why spelling matters

Improves Reading Skills

Recognising patterns in spelling enhances decoding ability.

Understanding spelling rules supports fluent reading.

Helps children identify and pronounce new words accurately.

Boosts Writing Proficiency



Accurate spelling allows children to focus on content rather than correcting errors.

Clear communication: misspelled words can change the meaning or cause confusion.

Builds confidence in writing for different audiences.





Supports Vocabulary Development

Learning how words are spelled reveals their roots, prefixes, and suffixes.

Encourages exploration of synonyms, antonyms, and related words.



In Key Stage 2 (KS2), spelling is taught in a structured and progressive way to help children master a wide range of words, including more complex patterns and rules. The teaching typically follows these key approaches:



Spelling Rules and Patterns

Children are taught specific spelling rules and patterns that apply to many words. These rules cover things like:

Prefixes and suffixes (e.g., un -, dis -, -ly, -ness)

Silent letters (e.g., "knight," "thumb")

Doubling consonants (e.g., "hop" to "hopping")

Vowel patterns (e.g., "ai," "ay," "ea")

Homophones (e.g., "there," "their," "they're")

Common exception words that don't follow the rules (e.g., "because," "said," "friend")

Explicit Teaching of Rules

Children are taught rules like adding suffixes, prefixes, and plurals (e.g., "drop the 'e' before adding ' -ing").

Common Patterns & Exceptions

Focus on spelling patterns such as "ough," silent letters, or double consonants.

Teach exceptions (e.g., "I before E, except after C" and when it doesn't apply).

Spelling through Context

Words are practiced in sentences to link spelling with meaning.

Memory Strategies

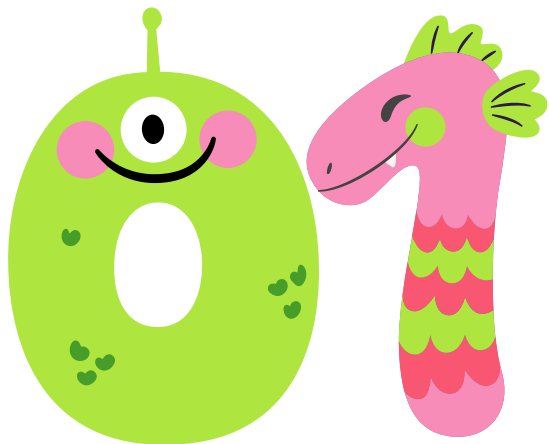
Mnemonics (e.g., "Big Elephants Can Always Understand Small Elephants" for "because").

Spelling pyramids or breaking words into syllables.

Regular Practice

Weekly spelling lists with activities such as word searches, crosswords, and dictations.

Emphasis on proofreading their own work for spelling accuracy.





The Power of a Single Letter

One letter can change the whole meaning of a word—and the story! Double-check your spelling to avoid accidental hilarity.

Bare vs. Bear

Bare: Lacking clothes or coverage.

Bear: A big furry animal you wouldn't want to meet in the woods.

Stationary vs. Stationery

Stationary: Not moving.

Stationery: Fancy paper and pens.

This is how we would teach a spelling pattern.

The Double Consonant Rule

When adding a suffix (like -ing, -ed, -er, or -est) to a word, double the final consonant if these three conditions are true:

The word ends with a single consonant.

E.g., "run," "hop," "swim."

The vowel before the consonant is short.

E.g., the "u" in "run," the "o" in "hop," or the "i" in "swim."

The suffix starts with a vowel.

E.g., -ing, -ed, -er, -est.



Examples of Doubling the Consonant

Run + ing = Running

Hop + ed = Hopped

Swim + er = Swimmer

No Doubling When...

The vowel before the consonant is long or a diphthong.

E.g., "meet" becomes "meeting" (no doubling).
The word ends in more than one consonant.

E.g., "jump" becomes "jumping" (no doubling).

Your turn



Spelling games station

There are various activities for you to have a look at and take home if you wish. If you would like to have a try now or ask me how they work we have 15 minutes before we come back together so I can talk you through some strategies you might like to try at home.





Supporting spelling at home.

Make it Fun: Use games like bingo, scrabble, and crosswords to engage your child.

Use the Look, Cover, Write, Check Method: Have your child look at the word, cover it, write it, and then check if they spelled it correctly.

Spot Patterns: Highlight spelling patterns like "tion" or "-ough" to build understanding.

Break It Down: Split tricky words into smaller parts (e.g., "necessary" = ne-cess-a-ry).

Use Mnemonics: Create memory aids like "Big Elephants Can Always Understand Small Elephants" for "because."

Read Widely: Encourage reading to expose your child to new words.

Praise Effort: Celebrate attempts, even if they get it wrong -confidence grows with encouragement.



Common KS2 Spelling Patterns: -

Words ending in "-tion": station, action, direction, correction. - Words with silent letters: knee, write, knight, comb. - Suffixes: adding "-ed" or "-ing" (e.g., hop -> hopped, hoping).

Recommended Online Tools: -

Spelling Frame: Interactive spelling practice. - BBC Bitesize Spelling: Fun and educational spelling resources.

Any Questions?

