

# How to help your child learn their spellings

## 1. Create rhymes and raps using spelling

Using rhymes, raps or mnemonics to help your child better understand the words that they're trying to learn is a fun way to achieve this.

E.g because

Big, Elephant, Cause, Accidents, Under, Small, Elephants.

## 2. Create a spelling wall in your house

At the beginning of each week hang some paper from one of the walls in your house and create a learning and spelling hub. Encourage your child to write down words that they learn on paper that can be stuck on the wall. You can also use additional materials like coloured crayons or markers, and even encourage pupils to draw pictures to associate with the



words.

## 3. Make a fun crossword

Crosswords present an excellent opportunity to make learning spelling interesting, as they involve a more active type of learning than passive review techniques.

## 4. Jumble word

Using plastic magnetic letter shapes, first spell out the word, then scramble the letters into the pile and have your child assemble the word again. As they advance, you can start with the word jumbled, and even have them assemble words from a letter pile.

## 5. Use arts and crafts to encourage spelling

Many pupils learn better when they're being creative. This is especially true for visual, auditory and kinaesthetic learners. Instead of using plain old pens and pencils to write out words, break out the art supplies and allows pupils to use paints, markers, crayons and other colourful creative implements to spell out words.

## 6. Create a game of word bingo

Everyone loves a game of bingo!

## 7. Word heads

Remember the game celebrity heads, when you put the names of a celebrity on each person's head and you try to work out who you are by asking questions? The same game can be played using spelling words. Pupils have to figure out which word they are by asking a bunch of questions with yes/no answers like:

- Am I a verb?
- Do I start with a vowel?

- Am I an animal?  
Once they guess the word, they then have to spell it aloud. Word heads is fun because children play together to uncover their own solutions, encouraging collaboration and out-of-the-box thinking.

### **8. Build a word train**

Have pupils spell out words on small cards and assemble them together based on certain rules. A couple you can try:

- Form a sentence: Each follow-on word must help build a sentence
- Matching letters: The first letter of the next word must match the last letter of the previous word