

Glossary

Blending- Blending is the process of combining syllables from their phonemes in the correct order to read whole words.

Digraph- A digraph is a two-letter grapheme that represent one phoneme/sound. For example /sh/ represents one phoneme/sound in 'shop' and the vowel digraph /oa/ represents one phoneme/sound in 'boat'.

Exception Words- Words which don't follow the rules and patterns and are therefore often misspelt.

Homograph- Homographs are words that are spelled the same but have different meanings (and may or may not have different pronunciations). For example the word, 'read', "He read that whole book!" compared to "I like to read in bed".

Homophone- Homophones are words which sound the same but are spelt differently such as 'there', 'their' and 'they're'.

Phoneme- A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound in a word.

Segmenting- "I want to spell frog, what phonemes can I hear, and what graphemes are those phonemes represented by?" It is the reverse skill to blending, and also called spelling.

Spelling Pattern- Spellings which follow a particular pattern, such as double consonant words.

Spelling Rule- A rule that can be applied to many rules to help with remembering different spelling patterns, e.g. i before e, except after c.

Split Digraph- A split digraph is where another letter comes in between the two graphemes of a single phoneme/sound, for example, the 'K' in 'make' separates the digraph /ae/, creating split digraph /a_e/.



Phonics and Spelling at home: Year 5/6

Spelling Games and Activities

Clapping Syllables
Head's Up
Bubble Writing
Hangman
Silly Sentences
Singing
Dictionary
Repetition
Drawing
Scrabble
Crossword
Websites
Spot Patterns
Copy Them
Fancy Fonts
Word Search
Rainbow Words
Chanting Letters
Apps

Year 5/6 Spelling Patterns

Endings which sound like /ʃəs/ spelt – **cius** or – **tious** . If the root word ends in –ce, the /ʃ/ sound is usually spelt as c – e.g. vice – vicious, grace – gracious, space – spacious, malice – malicious. Exception: anxious

Endings which sound like /ʃəl/ –**cial** is common after a vowel letter (official, special, artificial) and –**tial** after a consonant letter (confidential, essential), but there are some exceptions. Exceptions: initial, financial, commercial, provincial (the spelling of the last three is clearly related to finance, commerce and province)

Words ending in – **ant**, –**ance**/–**ancy**, –**ent**, –**ence**/–**ency** . Use –ant and –ance/–ancy if there is a related word with a /æ/ or /eɪ/ sound in the right position; –ation endings are often a clue , observant, observance, (observation), expectant (expectation), hesitant, hesitancy (hesitation),

Use –**ent** and –**ence**/–**ency** after soft c (/s/ sound), soft g (/dʒ/ sound) and qu, or if there is a related word with a clear /ɛ/ sound in the right position (innocent, innocence, decent, decency).

Words ending in – **able** and –**ible** .
Words ending in – **ably** and –**ibly**
(adorable/adorably)

Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words ending in –fer (transferring, transferred). The r is not doubled if the –fer is no longer stressed (reference, referee, preference, transference).

The ‘**i before e except after c**’ rule applies to words where the sound spelt by ei is /i:/. Exceptions: protein, caffeine, seize (and either and neither if pronounced with an initial /i:/ sound).

Ough is one of the trickiest spellings in English – it can be used to spell a number of different sounds, ought, bought, thought, nought, brought, fought rough, tough, enough cough though, although, dough .

Words with ‘**silent**’ letters (i.e. letters whose presence cannot be predicted from the pronunciation of the word) -doubt, island, lamb, solemn, thistle, knight.

Homophones and other words that are often confused . In the pairs of words opposite, nouns end –ce and verbs end –se. Advice and advise provide a useful clue as the word advise (verb) is pronounced with a /z/ sound – which could not be spelt c.

