

Helping your Child with Spelling.
from the British Dyslexia Association.

There are activities you can do with your child to help strengthen their spelling:

- Help your child to understand words are made up of syllables and each syllable has a vowel sound. Say a word and ask how many syllables there are. Help your child to spell each syllable at a time.
- Write words in different coloured pens to make a rainbow or in shaving foam, flour or sand over and over again to help your child remember them
- Look with your child at the bits in the words which they find difficult - use colours to highlight just the tricky bit
- Look for the prefixes and suffixes in words, e.g. -tion, -ness and learn these chunks. Explore with your child how many words have the same chunks at the beginning or the end of words
- Use flashcards or play matching games to let your child see the words lots of times - the more times they see the word, the better they will be able to read and spell it
- Use cut out or magnetic letters to build words together, then mix up the letters and rebuild the word together
- Use mnemonics - silly sentences where the first letter of each word makes up the word to be spelled
- Find smaller words in the bigger word, for example 'there is a hen in when'
- Go over the rules of spelling together, e.g. a 'q' is always followed by a 'u'. Look in their spelling journal to see the rules they have been taught in class.