



HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
FAIRLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

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Letters & Sounds



KS1

Autumn Term

KS1

Spelling is very important when children come to record and confidence in this area gives them freedom to explore and develop what they are able to write. Spelling is taught as part of the daily phonics session. Children are taught how to identify phonic patterns which help them build words when writing and decode words when reading.

To improve and develop their spelling children need to:

- develop an interest in words
- feel safe about trying new words
- learn about different strategies

At Fairlands we feel that continued partnership between parents and staff is essential: during daily phonics sessions your child will be taught various strategies to enable them to spell unfamiliar words. However, it is only through continued practice that your child will be able to apply these strategies and become a successful, independent writer.

Your child will be given 4 words a week to learn at home. We would like children to spell these words and to practice the strategies taught in class.

There will be 2 types of words:

- **Phonetically plausible words:** *Those which can be sounded out*
- **Tricky words:** *Those which cannot be sounded out but must just be learnt*

This booklet will give you some ideas of how you can help your child at home.

Helping your child at home with word recognition and spelling requires patience and persistence. Keep the activities varied, short and fun. Little and often is far more effective than one long exhausting session a week.

Please feel free to approach any member of the KS1 team if you have any questions.

How to help your KS1 Child

Trace words

This activity helps many children.

Finger Paints

Finger paints are messy, but an enjoyable way of spelling words. Let your child choose their favourite colour paint. Perhaps display the results around the house.

Play dough

Create words using play dough letters or using a pencil/end of a paintbrush etch the word into the dough.

Look, cover, write, check

Look at the word, cover it up, challenge your child to write it down then check their spelling against the word.

REMEMBER-Children must know how to properly pronounce a word before they attempt to spell it. If their pronunciation is not correct, they will indeed spell it as they would pronounce it in their own way.

Magnetic letters

Let your child look at their word list and then encourage them to spell the word by placing the magnetic letters on a magnetic board

Role-play

Let your child play teacher. Let them teach you the words they are learning to spell. Spell them orally or write them down. Let your child correct you. This may also be a fun way to learn some of the many games your child plays in their daily phonics sessions.

Similar words

If your child becomes stuck on a word ask if they know of a similar word that they can spell. Ask if they could use the same spelling pattern for the unfamiliar word.

Odd one out

Write down the words with a mistake in one (incorrect letter/letter missing/letter added.) Ask your child to look at the word. Ask your child to see if they word looks right. Challenge them to find the odd one out.

Games library

Join the school games library. There are many spellings games for all ages and abilities. Make spelling, reading and phonics a fun family game!