

10 FUN Ways to Practice Your Words!

1. **Eating Your Words**- Buy a box of alphabet shaped cereal at the store. Pour a cup of the dry cereal onto a table or plastic place mat. Pick out the five most difficult spelling words from your child's weekly list and have him spell those words from the letters in the cereal. After you check his work, he is free to eat his words!
2. **Bathtub Spelling Practice**- Get a package of foam letters for the tub. During bath time, call out a word and have your child spell the word by sticking the appropriate foam letters to the side of the tub.
3. **Sidewalk Spelling**- On a nice day, take your child outside with a bucket of sidewalk chalk and call out her spelling words. She can write the words on the sidewalk and later go back and draw a picture to illustrate each word. The chalk washes off with water.
4. **Back Rub Spelling**- this may grow to be one of your favorites! Both you and your child need to sit on the floor. She should be facing your back. As you call out spelling words, she will draw the letters on your back. This will not only give her the experience of remembering the spelling of the words but also give her practice forming the letters.
5. **Poker Chip Mix-up**- Purchase inexpensive poker chips and write the letters of the alphabet on them with a marker. You will need to make several of the commonly used consonants and vowels. Choose the poker chips that contain the letters of one of your child's spelling words. Give them to him without telling him which word and ask him to spell the word.
6. **Scrabble Spelling**- Play a game of Scrabble, using your child's spelling words.
7. **Go Fish**- Grab a package of goldfish crackers and your child's spelling list. Call a word out for your child to spell and each time she spells one correctly, she can take one gold fish cracker for each letter in the word. If she makes a mistake, she cannot take any until she is able to spell it without help.
8. **Word Processing Practice**- Have your child use the computer to type his spelling words. Encourage him to use a different color, font, size or style for each word.
9. **Spelling Word Finds**- Create a word find for your child using Puzzlemaker at <http://puzzlemaker.school.discovery.com/index.html>. Click on Puzzlemaker and choose Word Find. Type in your child's spelling words, print it and let her solve it!
10. **Spelling Puzzles**- Write each spelling word on a 4x6" index card with marker. Cut each card in half, creating a jagged edge on both sides. Mix up the cards and have your child sort them and find the match to complete the puzzle.

(Thanks to Mrs. Amanda Madden, 2nd grade teacher from South Carolina for these great ideas.)