

## Spelling Tips

Spelling is a visual skill. Most of us recognize if a word is spelled right or wrong by “looking” at it. Therefore, seeing the word and visualizing the word SPELLED CORRECTLY must be a part of practicing for a spelling test. Children learn and retain knowledge in different ways. I have listed a variety of methods. Find the one that works best for your child.

REMEMBER: Be patient, positive and encouraging.

1. Write the spelling words on index cards, so your child can practice seeing the words visually before you begin an activity. Take words away that your child consistently spells correctly. As the week continues, their pile of word cards should dwindle.
2. Sound out words and identify chunks. EX: stamp = st-a-m-p
3. Use individual letters to spell each word. Ex: letters I have attached, magnetic letters, letter tiles, .....
4. Create acronyms EX: eight (Ernie Is Greasing His Truck) people ( Pigs Eat Oatmeal Pigs Like Eggs)
5. Create clues EX: friend = I will be your friend to the end
6. Find small words in the big word EX: together = to-get-her
7. Take a practice spelling test
8. Writing spelling words is helpful, however, DO NOT make them write each word more than 3x each. They must be connecting to those letters and looking for patterns. Excessive writing does not help.

## Don't wait to study until Thursday night.

Your child needs small consistent doses in order to retain the word knowledge. Practice about 10 minutes each night. Identify the words that are the most difficult for your child and post them on the refrigerator. Spelling is visual. They need to see it!

## PRAISE THEM!

You may not get the desired result the first week you try. KEEP TRYING and KEEP PRAISING!

*“Hard work, perseverance, and dedication will open almost any door”.*

*John H. Johnson*