

Year 3/4 – Spellings

Year 3 should learn the patterns, sounds and rules for each group in each week.

Year 4 should consolidate spellings rules and investigate etymology - root words, origins and meanings. Spellings should be linked explicitly to SPaG work at the beginning of each Literacy lesson or combined when teaching how to write these words cursively in handwriting.

Autumn term (begin with revision from Years 1 and 2)

Week	Sound/pattern or rule of the week	Y3 Taught	Y3 Test	Y4 Taught	Y4 Test
1	a (acorn, nation) ai	Acorn Apron Alien Staple Cable Painting Fainted Again Brain Stained	Agent Table Acorn Shaky April Chain Train Waist Snail sailing	Fatal Basin Ratio Potato Nation Complain Contain Maintain Entail Abstain	Basic Maple Radio Potato Fatal Remain Explain Afraid Strained Slain
2	a_e ay	Brave Blaze Brake Chase Skate Decay Portray Prayed Straying Stake	Snake Shake Grape Haze Game Playing Sunday Spray Delaying Relay	Grade Flame Quake Whale Stale Betray Swayed Dismay Stayed Wednesday	Shave Plate Crane Blame Space Array Braying Display Staying Monday
3	o (cold) oe (toe)	Scold Older Opened Overall Rodent Toe Doe Foe	Cold Oval Over Told Hotel Toe Doe Foe	Ocean Folder Location Program Moment Toe Doe Foe	Opening Focus Moment Bonus Program Toe Doe Foe
4	o_e (home) oa (phase 3)	Stoke Those Froze Spoke Erode Croak Floating	Globe Smoke Stone Alone Throne Coach Boasting	Stroke Quote Whole Explode Wrote Approach Loaves	Stove Choke Decode Remote Scone Toasted Cockroach

		Throat Coast Moaned	Road Foam Roast	Groaning Raincoat Toaster	Loading Groan Soaked
5	ow (blow) ow (cow, how)	Glowing Mowed Below Showing Knowing Allow Frowned Crowd Brown Drowning	Blowing Sowed Slow Flow Know Frown Clown Gown Drown Scowl	Bestow Throw Shadow Unknown Grown Flower Growled Prowling Drowsy Shower	Growing Snowed Crowed Knowing Flown Power Howling Growl Crown Brown
6	ou (out, about) ph (phone, phonics)	Cloud Trout House Crouched Bounce Dolphin Elephant Nephew Graphic Trophy	Loud Couch Sound Ouch About Phone Phonics Photo Trophy Graph	Voucher Bouncing Mouse Scrounge Lounge Hyphen Physical Catastrophe Phrase Photograph	Slouch Bounce Ground South Pounce Alphabet Orphan Phantom Pharmacy Phobia

Week	Sound/pattern or rule of the week	Taught	Test
7	Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable The 'i' sound spelt y words	Forgetting Beginning Prefer Gardening Limiting Myth Gym Egypt Pyramid Mystery	Forgotten Beginner Preferred Gardener Limited Limitation Mythical Gymnasium Pyramid Mysterious
8	The 'u' sound spelt ou More prefixes (negative meanings)	Young Touch Double Trouble Country Disappoint Misbehave Inactive Unable	Younger Touching Double Troubling Countries Disagree Mislead Incorrect Unwell
9	More prefixes + Year 4 investigate other prefixes –ad (adverb), -af(affection), -al(almighty) – a(aboard), micro and mini. They should also look at –non and –co that have hyphens (i.e co-operate and non-stick)	Illegal Immature Impossible Irregular Redo Return Submerge Interact Supermarket Antisocial Autobiography Deform precaution	Illegible Immortal Impatient Irresponsible Refresh Redecorate Subheading International Superstar Anticlockwise Autograph Deflate predict
10	Suffix –ation Suffix –y Investigate why some base words drop e or double their consonants when y is added Suffix -ly	Information Adoration Sensation Crisp- crispy Fur –furry Grease - greasy Sad - sadly Complete-ly Usual-ly Final-ly Comical-ly	Sensation Preparation Admiration Cheek – cheeky Fat – fatty Laze -lazy Sadly Completely Usually Finally Comically
11	Suffix –ly exceptions	Happy –happily Angry – angrily Gentle-gently Simple-simply Humble-humbly Noble-nobly	Happily Angrily Gently Simply Humbly Nobly

		Basic- basically Frantic –frantically Dramatic – dramatically True-truly Due-duly Whole-wholly	Basically Frantically Dramatically Truly Duly Wholly
12	Sure that sounds like zure Ture that sounds like cha	Measure Treasure pleasure enclosure creature furniture picture nature adventure	Measure Treasure pleasure enclosure creature furniture picture nature adventure

Spring term

Week	Sound/pattern or rule of the week	Taught	Test
1	Suffix – sion (sounds like shun) Adding Suffix –ous for a noun to become an adjective	Divide-division Invade-invasion Confuse-confusion Decide-decision Collide-collision Televise- television Poison- poisonous, danger- dangerous, mountain -mountainous, Fame - famous, Variety - various	division, invasion, confusion, decision, collision, television poisonous, dangerous, mountainous, famous, various
2	Adding suffix –ous with and without an obvious root word	Tremendous Enormous Jealous Humorous Glamour -Glamorous Vigorous Courage -Courageous Serious Obvious Curious Hideous Spontaneous courteous	Tremendous Enormous Jealous Humorous Glamorous Vigorous Courageous Serious Obvious Curious Hideous Spontaneous courteous
3	Endings which sound like shen spelt –tion, –sion, –ssion, –cian	invention injection action hesitation completion expression discussion confession permission admission expansion extension comprehension tension musician electrician magician politician mathematician	Invention Action Hesitation Expression Discussion Permission Extension Comprehension Tension Musician Magician Politician Mathematician
4	Sounds like ‘k’ spelt ch	scheme, chorus, chemist, echo, character	scheme, chorus, chemist, echo, character

	Sounds like 'sh' spelt ch	chef, chalet, machine, brochure	chef, chalet, machine, brochure
5	Sounds like it ends with 'g' spelt gue Sounds like it ends with 'k' spelt que Sounds like it starts with 's' spelt sc	league, tongue, antique, unique science, scene, discipline, fascinate, crescent	league, tongue, antique, unique science, scene, discipline, fascinate, crescent
6	Sounds like 'ay' spelt ei, eigh or ey Suffix -er -est -iest	vein, weigh, eight, neighbour, they, obey quick, quicker, quickest cold, colder, coldest happy, happier, happiest	vein, weigh, eight, neighbour, they, obey ripe, riper, ripest big, bigger, biggest chilly, chillier, chilliest
7	Plurals Investigations – words ending in vowels (es unless preceded by another vowel); – words ending in f (ff add s; f or fe use ves); – plurals that don't use s at all, Possessive apostrophe with plural words (The apostrophe is placed after the plural form of the word; -s is not added if the plural already ends in -s, but is added if the plural does not end in -s (i.e. is an irregular plural – e.g. children's).	Fox-foxes Rope-ropes Berry -berries Delay -delays Wolf-wolves children, men, women, teeth dice, girls', boys', men's	Witch-witches Shoe-shoes Party -parties Donkey -donkeys Wife - wives geese, feet, deer, fish, sheep babies', children's, mice's
8	Homophones and near-homophones	Were/where/we're You/yew/ewe Their/they're/there Too/two/to	accept/except, affect/effect, ball/bawl, berry/bury, brake/break,
9	Homophones and near-homophones	Be/bee See/sea Heard/herd New/knew No/know Might/mite	fair/fare, grate/great, groan/grown, here/hear, heel/heal/he'll, knot/not,
10	Homophones and near-homophones	Right/write Morning/mourning Place/plaice	mail/male, main/mane, meat/meet,

		Through/threw Great/grate Eyes/ice	medal/meddle, missed/mist, peace/piece,
11	Homophones and near-homophones	Hole/whole I/eye For/four Are/our In/inn Of/have	plain/plane, rain/rein/reign, scene/seen, weather/whether, whose/who's
12	Adding the suffix –ly –ful -less –er -able +Year 4 investigate other suffixes –ship, -ness, -ette -ment, -hood, -ish, -dom –ling and -like	kindly wishful careless teacher reliable friendly hopeful thoughtless reader drinkable	properly sorrowful homeless driver touchable actually painful lifeless farmer sinkable

Summer term

Week	Sound/pattern or rule of the week	Taught	Test
1	Words with more than one meaning	Address Complete Earth Fruit Group Guard Guide Interest Minute Notice Sentence	Address Complete earth Fruit Group Guard Guide Interest Minute Notice Sentence
2	Double consonants Warm up with oral activities distinguishing between long and short (rap) vowels. Use the contrasting words list to show how long vowels in the middle of words are followed by one consonant, but short vowels are followed by two.	Contrasting words: Taping -tapping Super- supper Pole –pollen Thematic words: Funny, Holly, Grabbed High-frequency words Daddy, Stopped, Dinner, Carry Others: accident(ally) appear business different difficult	Contrasting words: Diner –dinner Biter – bitter Coma –comma Thematic words: Messy, Carrot, Coffee High-frequency words Common, Swimming, Getting, Written Others: occasion(ally) opposite possess(ion) pressure suppose
3	SPaG words	therefore though/although question purpose probably possible perhaps learn knowledge important February eight/eighth certain consider answer grammar	therefore though/although question purpose probably possible perhaps learn knowledge important February eight/eighth certain consider answer grammar
4	C that sounds like 's'	bicycle centre century circle decide experience exercise medicine recent	bicycle centre century circle decide experience exercise medicine recent
5	Silent letters	caught	caught

	Investigation – list words on boards and ask children if they can see any common patterns (e.g. silent k at the beginning is always followed by n, and the n is always followed by a vowel).	height island naughty thought through weight knuckle gnomes write rhyme plumb calf	height island naughty thought through weight knee gnat wrapper rhubarb dumb half
6	Mathematical words	arrive build calendar forward(s) increase length position quarter regular straight various	arrive build calendar forward(s) increase length position quarter regular straight various
7	scientific words	breath breathe heart material natural potatoes strength experiment heard library separate	breath breathe heart material natural potatoes strength experiment heard library separate
8	Topical words	believe continue describe early extreme famous favourite history ordinary popular promise reign remember	believe continue describe early extreme famous favourite history ordinary popular promise reign remember
9	Others	actual(ly) busy enough imagine often mention particular peculiar special strange	actual(ly) busy enough imagine often mention particular peculiar special strange

		surprise woman/women	surprise woman/women
10	Adding –ing Investigate the effect of adding ing to the words in the ‘ending in e’ and ‘short vowels’ lists.	Help-helping See-seeing Ask-asking Do-doing Drive-driving Hope-hoping Take-taking Write-writing Hop-hopping Shut-shutting Run-running Chat-chatting	Spend-spending Go-going Enjoy-enjoying Lead-leading Decide-deciding Make-making Care-caring Stare-staring Clap-clapping Shop-shopping Plan-planning Rub-rubbing
11	Words that end in le, el and al +Year 4 should also investigate words that end in –ary and –ic (i.e.stationary, historic)	Chuckle, middle ripple uncle candle prickle pedal, metal, satchel, label	vegetable guzzle bottle cycle medal, petal model, angel, parcel, quarrel
12	Compound words	everyone someone churchyard sideboard nowhere somewhere paintbrush deadline goalkeeper grandmother	everybody somebody football cupboard no-one upstairs gunpowder earthworm clockwise something
<u>Year 4 spelling investigations</u>	Collect/classify words with common roots, e.g. advent, invent, prevent, press, pressure, depress, phone, telephone, microphone; investigate origins and meanings Use an etymological dictionary to create charts showing word links and origins.	from dec – ten decade, decimal from annus – year annual anniversary from manus – hand manual manuscript from graphein – write graph photograph from aqua – water aquarium aqueduct from mort – dead mortgage mortuary	from mikros – small microscope microlight from unus – one unit union from roi – king royal royalty from octo – eight octagon octopus from insula – island insulation peninsula from presse – press express pressure

(Words are taken from Spelling Appendix 1: National Curriculum 2016 and the Literacy Strategy Spelling Bank – Years 3/4)