

Helping your child to read and spell the first 300 common words

- Children will need to learn to read the word before they can learn to spell it
- Words should be read quickly – not broken down or sounded out as many of them cannot be decoded
- Children will know these words as ‘tricky words’ or ‘sight words’
- Some words may have phonic sounds that the children can use to help them e.g. sh + e = she

Strategies for learning to read

- Take 10 words at a time
- Read the words to your child
- Let them try to read them to you
- If they get them wrong encourage them to have another go, if they are not successful after 3 seconds tell them the word
- Each time they get a word right tick the box
- When your child has 5 ticks in the box (on 5 separate days) let them colour the word in
- When most of the 10 words are completed then let your child have a go at spelling them
- Repeat with each set of 10 words

Strategies for learning to spell

Strategies	Explanations
Syllables	To learn my word I can listen to how many syllables there are so I can break it into smaller bits to remember eg Sep – tem - ber
Base Words	To learn my word I can find its base word eg smiling base word smile + ing
Analogy	To learn my word I can use words that I already know to help me eg could, would should
Mnemonics	To learn my word I can make up a sentence to help me remember it eg could – O U lucky duck, people – people eat orange peel like elephants