

SPELLING RULES FOR YEARS 3 and 4

This is not a definitive word list, but gives examples of words to show the various spelling patterns or rules.

Revision of work from years 1 and 2

Pay special attention to the rules of adding suffixes

Adding - ing rules Double consonant / drop e	Words ending in 'le@	Homophones
planning escaping surprising skimming running smiling slapping slipping biting sliding gripping	brittle gentle possible article trouble bubble article battle castle circle cycle	accept except affect effect berry bury brake break fair fare groan grown here hear mail male missed miss peace piece weather whether whose who's
Suffixes - ly	Silent letters	- sure - ture
happily angrily gently simply humbly basically frantically dramatically	doubt crumb lamb muscle scent kneel known sign gnome	measure treasure pleasure enclosure creature furniture picture nature adventure
- gue / que	ei / eigh / ey	ou letter string
league tongue antique unique	vein weigh eight neighbour they obey	young touch double trouble country
Plurals ending in f	ch giving the "k" sound	ch giving the "sh" sound
thieves leaves wolves shelves	scheme chorus chemist echo	chef chalet machine brochure
Suffixes -er and -est where double the consonant	Suffixes -er and -est where drop the y and add i	sc letter string

<p>hotter hottest braver bravest slimmer taller</p>	<p>happier runnier sloppiest waviest hungriest hungrier</p>	<p>science scene discipline fascinate crescent scent</p>
<p>Plural rules adding – s -es (ends in ch / sh / x / o) -ves (ends in f) -ies (ends in y)</p>	<p>- tion / -sion / cian</p>	<p>Suffix -ful</p>
<p>heroes echoes churches lunches bushes watches hisses parties babies cities tries jellies knives wolves leaves thieves</p>	<p>invention injection action hesitation completion expression discussion confession permission admission expansion extension comprehension tension division invasion confusion decision collision television</p>	<p>dreadful awful beautiful colourful fearful graceful joyful painful powerful successful thankful</p>
<p>Contractions (apostrophe)</p>	<p>Prefixes: de / re / un / dis</p>	<p>Words ending in -dge</p>
<p>don't can't isn't doesn't aren't haven't doesn't you're they're you'll</p>	<p>defuse defrost deform reform recycle revisit unhappy unlikely disapprove</p>	<p>hedge ledge trudge budge sludge judge</p>

	disagree dislike	
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Adding suffix rules: drop y / Double consonant / drop e	Double consonant spellings	- ible / -able
qualified planned escaping surprising skimming running smiling slapping slipping	effortless biggest approximately follow surrounded follow accuracy supply scattered	sensible flexible responsible reliable comfortable affordable flexible terrible understandable
aero / auto / super / anti	sc letter string	- ous letter string
supermarket superman superstar antiseptic antibiotic autobiography automatic autograph aeroplane	science scene discipline fascinate crescent scent	poisonous dangerous famous mountainous various tremendous enormous jealous humorous glamorous vigorous courageous outrageous serious obvious curious courteous
“igh” pattern	The /ɪ/ sound spelt y elsewhere than at the end of words	The suffix -ation
night bright fright slight eight height weight	myth gym egypt pyramid mystery	information adoration sensation preparation admiration

Endings: -tion -sion -ssion -cian	ei, eigh, ey	Possessive apostrophes with plural words
invention injection action hesitation completion expression discussion confession permission admission expansion extension comprehension tension musician electrician magician politician mathematician	vein weigh eight neighbour they obey	girls' boys' babies' children's men's
Words with the /k/sound spelt ch (Greek in origin)	Words with the /j/ sound spelt ch (mostly French in origin)	Words ending with the /g/ sound spelt – gue and the /k/ sound spelt –que (French in origin)
scheme chorus chemist echo character	chef chalet machine brochure	league tongue antique unique
Words with the /s/ sound spelt sc (Latin in origin)		
science scene discipline fascinate crescent		

SPELLING RULES FOR YEARS 5 AND 6

This is not a definitive word list but gives examples of words to show the various spelling patterns or rules.

PLURAL SPELLING RULES

S / X / CH / SH / O and -es	Drop the y and add -ies	Words ending in f / fe - ves
buffaloes dominoes heroes echoes churches lunches bushes watches hisses	parties babies cities tries jellies celebrities varieties properties photocopies vacancies	knives wolves leaves thieves scarves loaves halves
- ible / - able	Contractions	Soft c (ce)
sensible flexible responsible reliable comfortable affordable flexible terrible understandable	can't isn't doesn't won't there's she's wouldn't hasn't couldn't	ceiling celebrate celebrity certain recent centre ceremony certificate decent except receive
Soft c (ci)	Soft c (cy)	Adding suffix rules: drop y / Double consonant / drop e
cinema cinnamon circle circuit accident circulation circumference circumstance decision	cyanide bicycle cyclist cyclone cylinder fancy	qualified planned challenging escaping surprising skimming prettier running smiling
Letter string ough	"shun" sound - cian / ssion	"shun" sound - tion
bough cough dough	magician electrician politician	competition fraction pollution

<p>enough plough though bought brought drought sought thought wrought</p>	<p>confusion explosion discussion profession passion session</p>	<p>emotion station position distribution contribution competition repetition demonstration translation</p>
Unstressed letters	Homophones	- ant / -ance / - ancy
<p>conference offering deafening desperate definite definitely dictionary difference miserable memorable reference messenger prepare different doctor prosperous easily explanatory extra factory family secretary primary marvellous encourage fibres</p>	<p>altar / alter steal / steel isle / aisle aloud / allowed affect / effect herd/ heard advice / advise device / devise licence / license practise / practice desert / dessert profit / prophet dissent / descent draft / draught</p>	<p>fragrant fragrance vacant vacancy relevant relevance tolerant tolerance important importance hesitant hesitancy vibrant vibrancy</p>
	- ent / -ence / -ency	Suffixes words ending in fer
	<p>difference absence experience patience independence existence confidence difference indifference influence insistence impatience excellent</p>	<p>referring referral, preferring preferred, transferring transferred reference referee, preference transference</p>
“ul” sound - al	“ul” sound - cial	“ul” sound - tial
<p>royal actual</p>	<p>beneficial commercial</p>	<p>palatial partial</p>

mineral general material rehearsal original natural horizontal vertical	crucial facial financial glacial judicial official special social	potential residential sequential spatial substantial essential impartial confidential
Common prefixes		
il / ir / im	dis / mis / un	- cious / tious
illegal illiterate illegible irregular irrational irritating improper imprudent immortal immaterial	disembark disbelief disadvantage discontent discourage misplace miscalculate misconduct unnatural unintentional	cautious scrumptious infectious fractious ambitious conscious precious vicious spacious delicious ferocious suspicious delicious suspicious vicious precious ferocious scrumptious

High Frequency words Checklist

(Next 200 common words in order with no real spelling patterns)

water	away	good	want	over
how	did	man	going	where
would	or	took	school	think
home	who	didn't	ran	know
bear	can't	again	cat	long
things	new	after	wanted	eat
everyone	our	two	has	yes
play	take	thought	dog	well
find	more	I'll	round	tree
magic	shouted	us	other	food
fox	through	way	been	stop
must	red	door	right	sea
these	began	boy	animals	never
next	first	work	lots	need
that's	baby	fish	gave	mouse
something	bed	may	still	found
live	say	soon	night	narrator
small	car	couldn't	three	head
king	town	I've	around	every
garden	fast	only	many	laughed
let's	much	suddenly	told	another
great	why	cried	keep	room
last	jumped	because	even	am
before	gran	clothes	tell	key
fun	place	mother	sat	boat
window	sleep	feet	morning	queen
each	book	its	green	different
let	girl	which	inside	run
any	under	hat	snow	air
trees	bad	tea	top	eyes
fell	friends	box	dark	grandad
there's	looking	end	than	best
better	hot	sun	across	gone
hard	floppy	really	wind	wish
eggs	once	please	thing	stopped
ever	miss	most	cold	park
lived	birds	duck	horse	rabbit
white	coming	he's	river	liked
giant	looks	use	along	plants
dragon	pulled	We're	fly	grow

Year 3 and 4 Statutory word list

accident(ally)	early	knowledge	purpose
actual(ly)	earth	learn	quarter
address	eight/eighth	length	question
answer	enough	library	recent
appear	exercise	material	regular
arrive	experience	medicine	reign
believe	experiment	mention	remember
bicycle	extreme	minute	sentence
breath	famous	natural	separate
breathe	favourite	naughty	special
build	February	notice	straight
busy/business	forward(s)	occasion(ally)	strange
calendar	fruit	often	strength
caught	grammar	opposite	suppose
centre	group	ordinary	surprise
century	guard	particular	therefore
certain	guide	peculiar	though/although
circle	heard	perhaps	thought
complete	heart	popular	through
consider	height	position	various
continue	history	possess(ion)	weight
decide	imagine	possible	woman/women
describe	increase	potatoes	
different	important	pressure	
difficult	interest	probably	
disappear	island	promise	

Year 5 and 6 Statutory word list

These words are addition to the Year 3 and 4 word list and will be taught across both year groups. Children will be expected to know these by the end of Year 6.

accommodate	criticise	individual	relevant
accompany	curiosity	interfere	restaurant
according	definite	interrupt	rhyme
achieve	desperate	language	rhythm
aggressive	determined	leisure	sacrifice
amateur	develop	lightening	secretary
ancient	dictionary	marvellous	shoulder
apparent	disastrous	mischievous	signature
appreciate	embarrass	muscle	sincere(ly)
attached	environment	necessary	soldier
available	equip (-ed, -	neighbour	stomach
average	especially	nuisance	sufficient
awkward	exaggerate	occupy	suggest
bargain	excellent	occur	symbol
bruise	existence	opportunity	system
category	explanation	parliament	temperature
cemetery	familiar	persuade	thorough
committee	foreign	physical	twelfth
communicate	forty	prejudice	variety
community	frequently	privilege	vegetable
competition	government	profession	vehicle
conscience	guarantee	programme	yacht
conscious	harass	pronunciation	
controversy	hindrance	queue	
convenience	identity	recognise	
correspond	immediate(ly)	recommend	