

Ways a Parent can help a Child with Spelling:

1. Have your child practice writing his or her spelling words in a wide variety of ways:
 - On paper with pencils, pens, markers or paint
 - With chalk on a sidewalk or patio
 - With whiteboard markers on a piece of tile or linoleum
 - By typing on a computer
 - With his or her fingers in a plate of pudding!
2. Have your child spell his or her spelling words out loud to you while riding in the car or waiting in line somewhere
3. Use blocks, Scrabble tiles or cards with letters (or make your own by writing letters on the back of index cards – one card per letter) and have your child rearrange the blocks/cards to practice spelling the words
4. Have your child spell words out loud in time with a physical activity. For example, he or she could do jumping jacks, saying one letter per jump, or while walking up or down stairs, saying one letter per step.
5. Buy inexpensive one-inch square tiles at a home improvement store. Using a permanent marker, write one letter on each tile, making several of each letter. Have your child use the tiles to spell the words. The tiles could be used over and over for years.
 - Additional idea: Use a different color tiles for vowels: a, e, i, o, u
6. If your child has a long list of spelling words, have him or her focus on four or five words at a time, rather than trying to learn the entire list at once.
7. Encourage your child to create words puzzles such as word searches or crossword puzzles with the spelling words, or you or an older sibling can create puzzles with the words for your child to solve
8. Have your child write the words in alphabetical order or in order from shortest to longest
9. Play hangman with your child using his or her spelling words
10. Keep a dictionary in your house so students will be able to look up unfamiliar words
11. Encourage your child to read! Good readers are often good spellers.