

Y1 Spelling Rules

Rule	Example Words
The sounds /f/, /l/, /s/, /z/ and /k/ spelt ff, ll, ss, zz and ck	off, well, miss, buzz, back
The /ŋ/ sound spelt n before k	bank, think, honk, sunk
Division of words into syllables	pocket, rabbit, carrot, thunder, sunset
-tch	catch, fetch, kitchen, notch, hutch
The /v/ sound at the end of words	have, live, give
Adding s and es to words (plural of nouns and the third person singular of verbs)	cats, dogs, spends, rocks, thanks, catches
Adding the endings -ing, -ed and -er to verbs where no change is needed to the root word	hunting, hunted, hunter, buzzing, buzzed, buzzer, jumping, jumped, jumper
Adding -er and -est to adjectives where no change is needed to the root word	grander, grandest, fresher, freshest, quicker, quickest
ai, oi	rain, wait, train, paid, afraid oil, join, coin, point, soil
ay, oy	day, play, say, way, stay boy, toy, enjoy, annoy
a-e	made, came, same, take, safe
e-e	these, theme, complete
i-e	five, ride, like, time, side
o-e	home, those, woke, hope, hole
u-e	June, rule, rude, use, tube, tune
ar	car, start, park, arm, garden
ee	see, tree, green, meet, week
ea (/i:/)	sea, dream, meat, each, read (present tense)
ea	head, bread, meant, instead, read (past tense)
er	(stressed sound): her, term, verb, person
er	(unstressed schwa sound): better, under, summer, winter, sister
ir	girl, bird, shirt, first, third
ur	turn, hurt, church, burst, Thursday
oo (/u:/)	food, pool, moon, zoo, soon

oo	book, took, foot, wood, good
oa	boat, coat, road, coach, goal
oe	toe, goes
ou	out, about, mouth, around, sound
ow (/aʊ/) ow (/əʊ/) ue ew	now, how, brown, down, town own, blow, snow, grow, show blue, clue, true, rescue, Tuesday new, few, grew, flew, drew, threw
ie (/aɪ /)	lie, tie, pie, cried, tried, dried
ie	chief, field, thief
igh	high, night, light, bright, right
or	for, short, born, horse, morning
ore	more, score, before, wore, shore
aw	saw, draw, yawn, crawl
au	author, August, dinosaur, astronaut
air	air, fair, pair, hair, chair
ear	dear, hear, beard, near, year
are	bare, dare, care, share, scared
Words ending -y (/i:/ or /ɪ /)	very, happy, funny, party, family
New consonant spellings ph and wh	dolphin, alphabet, phonics, elephant when, where, which, wheel, while
Using k for the /k/ sound	Kent, sketch, kit, skin, frisky
Adding the prefix -un	unhappy, undo, unload, unfair, unlock
Compound words	football, playground, farmyard, bedroom, blackberry

COMMON EXCEPTION WORDS

These are the statutory word lists for Year 1. Please can you support your child to learn these spellings:

the	you	where	pull
a	your	love	full
do	they	come	house
to	be	some	our
today	he	one	by
of	me	once	my
said	she	ask	here
says	we	friend	there
are	no	school	his
were	go	put	has
was	so	push	I
is			