

Effective Practices for Spelling

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- Do teach Spelling—provide explicit spelling instruction
- Study the right words—The words and patterns used in children’s writing
- Pretest to identify words an individual does not know
(Individualize spelling instruction)
- Have students correct their own pretest (e.g. Circle-dot technique)
- Teach Children a multimodal study strategy (e.g., the flip folder—look-say-see-write-check)
- Retest after a study period (test-study-test cycle; assessment and review)
- Apply spelling knowledge in various types of exercises (matching, sorting, transformations, word construction, completion of classifications, analogies, etc.) Avoid badly designed exercises.
- Supplement study with cooperative activities for student motivation
board games, team study, spelling buddies, etc.)
- Study spelling patterns systematically (word sorting)
- Connect spelling to writing—teach good spelling habits
- Make other connections (reading, phonics, thinking)