

Year 2 Spelling Work

In Year 2, your child will be working on spelling words using the following sounds, rules and patterns:

Statutory requirements	Rules and guidance (non-statutory)		Example words (non-statutory)	
The /dʒ/ sound spelt as ge and dge at the end of words, and sometimes spelt as g elsewhere in words before e, i and y	<p>The letter j is never used for the /dʒ/ sound at the end of English words.</p> <p>At the end of a word, the /dʒ/ sound is spelt –dge straight after the /æ/, /ɛ/, /ɪ/, /ɒ/, /ʌ/ and /ʊ/ sounds (sometimes called ‘short’ vowels).</p> <p>After all other sounds, whether vowels or consonants, the /dʒ/ sound is spelt as –ge at the end of a word.</p> <p>In other positions in words, the /dʒ/ sound is often (but not always) spelt as g before e, i, and y. The /dʒ/ sound is always spelt as j before a, o and u.</p>	badge edge bridge fudge dodge age join	change charge bulge village huge adjust jog	magic giraffe energy gem giant jar jacket
The /s/ sound spelt c before e, i and y		race ice cell lace pace space nice	city circle cinema circus mercy fancy rice	
The /n/ sound spelt kn and (less often) gn at the beginning of words	<p>The ‘k’ and ‘g’ at the beginning of these words was sounded hundreds of years ago.</p>	knit knob knock knowledge knee knapsack knuckle know knew	known knead kneel knight knot gnat gnaw gnome gnash	
The /r/ sound spelt wr at the beginning of words	<p>This spelling probably also reflects an old pronunciation.</p>	write wrote written wrestle wrist wrong answer sword	wren wrap wring wrapping wrapped wreck wiggle	
The /l/ or /əl/ sound spelt –le at the end of words	<p>The –le spelling is the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words.</p>	table apple bottle little	castle staple ripple topple cable tumble eagle angle	

Statutory requirements	Rules and guidance (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)

Statutory requirements	Rules and guidance (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)
The /l/ or /əl/ sound spelt -el at the end of words	The -el spelling is much less common than -le . The -el spelling is used after m, n, r, s, v, w and more often than not after s .	angel wheel level model label hotel jewel cruel camel tunnel squirrel towel tinsel
The /l/ or /əl/ sound spelt -al at the end of words	Not many nouns end in -al , but many adjectives do.	metal pedal capital hospital animal local vocal legal total mental petal
Words ending -il	There are not many of these words.	pencil fossil nostril basil peril pupil stencil civil evil devil gerbil lentil April
The /aɪ/ sound spelt -y at the end of words	This is by far the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words.	cry fly dry try reply July fry shy sky why sly defy
Adding -es to nouns and verbs ending in -y	The y is changed to i before -es is added. (Just the words that follow the rule.)	babies diaries copies carries tries flies replies cities parties armies jellies fairies
Adding -ed, -ing, -er and -est to a root word ending in -y with a consonant before it	The y is changed to i before -ed, -er and -est are added, but not before -ing as this would result in ii . The only ordinary words with ii are <i>skiing</i> and <i>taxiing</i> .	copied copier happier happiest cried replied worrier worried copying crying replying drying frying worrying carried carrier
Adding the endings -ing, -ed, -er, -est and -y to	The -e at the end of the root word is dropped before -ing, -ed, -er,	hiking hiked shiny icy

Statutory requirements	Rules and guidance (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)	
words ending in –e with a consonant before it	–est, –y or any other suffix beginning with a vowel letter is added. Exception: <i>being</i> .	hiked nicer nicest	iced icing coming
Adding –ing, –ed, –er, –est and –y to words of one syllable ending in a single consonant letter after a single vowel letter	The last consonant letter of the root word is doubled to keep the /æ/, /ɛ/, /ɪ/, /ɒ/ and /ʌ/ sound (i.e. to keep the vowel ‘short’). Exception: The letter ‘x’ is never doubled: <i>mixing, mixed, boxer, sixes</i> .	patting patted humming hummed dropping dropped sadder saddest	fatter fattest runner runny running hitting hitter
The /ɔ:/ sound spelt a before l and ll	The /ɔ:/ sound (‘or’) is usually spelt as a before l and ll.	ball call fall wall talk	walk always all tall mall
The /ʌ/ sound spelt o		mother other brother nothing Monday love glove	come honey money dozen above done some
The /i:/ sound spelt –ey	The plural of these words is formed by the addition of –s (<i>donkeys, monkeys, etc.</i>).	key donkey monkey valley chimney alley	gallery jersey hockey money smiley
The /ɒ/ sound spelt a after w and qu	a is the most common spelling for the /ɒ/ (‘hot’) sound after w and qu .	want watch wander what wash was	wallet quarrel quantity quantity squad squash
The /ɜ:/ sound spelt or after w	There are not many of these words.	word work worm world	worth work worthy
The /ɔ:/ sound spelt ar after w	There are not many of these words.	war warmth warm	towards warble
The /ʒ/ sound spelt s	<i>I do not understand why treasure is in this sections as well as in –sure section.</i>	treasure usual	
The suffixes –ment,	If a suffix starts with a consonant letter, it is	enjoyment	helpful

Statutory requirements	Rules and guidance (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)	
-ness, -ful , -less and -ly	<p>added straight on to most root words without any change to the last letter of those words.</p> <p>Exceptions:</p> <p>(1) <i>argument</i></p> <p>(2) root words ending in -y with a consonant before it but only if the root word has more than one syllable.</p>	payment movement sadness happiness darkness prettiness laziness	painful hopeful careful hopeless homeless badly happily
Contractions	<p>In contractions, the apostrophe shows where a letter or letters would be if the words were written in full (e.g. <i>can't</i> – <i>cannot</i>).</p> <p><i>It's</i> means <i>it is</i> (e.g. <i>It's</i> raining) or sometimes <i>it has</i> (e.g. <i>It's</i> been raining), but <i>it's</i> is never used for the possessive.</p>	can't haven't didn't couldn't wouldn't shouldn't it's	I'll I'm you're you'll he'll doesn't
The possessive apostrophe (singular nouns)		Megan's, Ravi's, the girl's, the child's, the man's	
Words ending in -tion		station fiction motion national	section action
Homophones and near-homophones	It is important to know the difference in meaning between homophones.	there/their/ they're here/hear quite/quiet see/sea bare/bear	one/won sun/son to/too/two be/bee blue/blew night/knight