

Repetition Exercises for Spelling or Sight Words

“Repetition is the mother of all learning.”

Try some of the activities below to keep interest in the tedious task of spelling and/or sight word practice! Encourage your learners to:

1. “Write” the words with their fingers in rice, sand, or shaving cream.
2. Spell words on a chalkboard, magna doodle, typewriter, or computer.
3. Practice spelling with different mediums: paint, colored pencils, pastels, crayons, highlighters, etc.
4. Sing the spellings.
5. Do jumping jacks or jump rope. Instead of counting numbers when doing jumping jacks or jumping rope, say the letters of the sight or spelling words.
6. Trace the words using tracing paper over correctly written sight or spelling words.
7. Take a practice-spelling test.
8. Give you a spelling test. Allow him/her to correct the test!
9. Write a silly story using spelling words.
10. Use letter tiles or letter cards to spell words.
11. Step on the letters in a letter mat or carpet to practice spelling the words.
12. Create word shapes by drawing lines and curves around the spelling words. It’s fun to do this with a highlighter!
13. Label three columns with the words: Good, Better, Best! Have your learner write each spelling word three times, one per column. Instruct that he should try to improve upon each spelling and handwriting attempt, leaving the BEST for last!
14. Label three columns with the words: Tiny, Medium, Large! Encourage your child to write each word in varying sizes. This is great for fine motor skills.
15. Draw a simple picture write the word under the picture.
16. Roll a pair of dice. The number rolled will equal the number of times a spelling word must be written. Roll the dice for each spelling word to vary the amounts.
17. Practice spelling words on graph (one-inch grid) paper.
18. Play “How Many in the Box?” Draw a square on a piece of paper and ask your learner to see how many of his spelling words he can write inside the box. Stipulate that handwriting must be legible! Write the number of words that fit, next to the box. Then draw a different sized box to try again.
19. Slide spelling word cards she has studied into an inexpensive photo album. Review the words each night.
20. Unlock word spellings. Use two clear containers, one labeled “locked” and the other labeled “unlocked.” Put spelling word cards into the locked container. To *unlock* a word, your youngster needs to spell it correctly three times. This is easy to do if he practices a few words each morning at the breakfast table. The goal is to move all words into the *unlocked* container by the end of the week.