**123 Ways to Practice Spelling Words**

1. **30 Second Words-** Write a TV commercial using all your spelling words. Read it to a parent or sibling!
2. **3-D Words**- Use Play Dough or clay to sculpt your spelling words.
3. **ABC Order**- First write your spelling words in a list. Then write them again in alphabetical order. Finally, write them in reverse alphabetical order.
4. **Across and Down Words**- Write each of your spelling words across and then down. See the example below. Example: teach

 e

 a

 c

 h

1. **Acrostic Poem**- Choose one of your spelling words. Write an acrostic poem for that word. You must also illustrate your poem. Example: fly

*F*un in the sky

*L*aps around clouds

*Y*es! I’m free!

1. **Adding My Words**- Each letter has a value. Consonants are worth 10 and vowels are worth 5. Write your spelling words. Then add up the value of each spelling word. Examples: said 10+5+5+10 = 30 there 10+10+5+10+5 = 40
2. **Air Write-** Write your spelling words in the air using your finger. Have a partner read your words as you write them OR a parent can “air write” your words and your job is to read the words.
3. **Alphabet Blocks/tiles/beads/stickers** - use ABC blocks/tiles/beads/stickers to spell words.
4. **Alphabet Cookie Cutters** - use ABC cookie cutters to make words. For extra fun, go ahead and make some word cookies.
5. **Alphabet Rocks** - If you have a set of painted ABC rocks these can be a fun way to build and spell words.
6. **Back Writing**- Use your finger to spell out each of your spelling words, one letter at a time, on your mom or dad’s back. Then it’s YOUR turn to FEEL and spell.
7. **Backwards Words**- Write your spelling words forwards. Then write them a second time backwards.
8. **Balloon Bop** - keep a balloon up in the air while spelling your word. This one gets lots of giggles.
9. **Blue Vowels**- Write each of your spelling words. Using a blue colored pencil, trace over the vowels in each word. Remember the vowels are: a e i o u
10. **Bubble Letters**- Write each of your spelling words in bubble letters. After you finish, color your words with crayon or colored pencils.
11. **Build a Word with Legos** – Students will use the Lego’s to build the letters to make up the word. Another option is by using some tape write the letters needed for each word ahead of time on some legos. Mix them up and then call out a word and have child(ren) build it using the appropriate legos and you will end up with some spelling word towers.
12. **Buzzing Bees**- Draw and color an outdoor picture. Count your spelling words. Draw a bee for each of your spelling words. Then write the words inside each of the “spelling” bees. Write neatly!
13. **Choo-choo Words**- Write the entire list end-to-end as one long word, using different colored crayons for each word.
14. **Clothespin Words** - Write letters on clothespins and have child pin letters to make words. They can pin onto hanging string (think clothes line) or even an index card.
15. **Code Words**- Come up with a code for each letter of the alphabet. Write down your code. Then write your spelling words in code. You must write the actual spelling word next to the “code word.”
16. **Coffee Filters & Markers** - let your child write the words using markers on coffee filters. Once you are all done, hand them a spray bottle of water and let them turn their spelling practice into art!
17. **Colorful Words**- Write each of your spelling words. Write each letter using a different colored pencil.
18. **Connect the Dots**- Write your spelling words in dots. Then connect the dots by tracing over them with a

colored pencil. Example: happy happy

1. **Consonant Circle**- Write each of your spelling words in a list. Then go back and circle all of the consonants in your words! Don’t forget to write neatly!
2. **Crayon Bits** - use your broken crayons to make letters and spell the target words.
3. **Create an Activity**- Can you think of a really fun way to practice your spelling words? Then go for it! Be sure to explain your activity so that I can share it with the class!
4. **Delicious Words**- Spray a small amount of whipped cream (or anything you can eat) on a plate and

spread it out. Write your spelling words in the whipped cream and be sure to clean up afterwards… yummy!

1. **Dots Game**- Make a square of 4 rows of dots with 4 dots in each row. Before taking a turn, the player must spell a spelling word correctly. If the word is correct, the player can connect two dots. When a player forms a square by connecting dots, he can write his initials in the box. The player with the most squares at the end of the game wins! Example: . . . . . .\_\_\_\_. . . . .\_\_\_\_. . . . . ME
2. **Draw and Label**- Draw and label your spelling words. You must color your drawings. Don’t forget to add lots

of great detail!

1. **Dusty Words**- Go outside to your sandbox and write your words in the sand.
2. **Etch a Word**- Use an Etch-A-Sketch to write your spelling words. Read the words to a parent or sibling.
3. **Fancy Letters**- Write your spelling words. Then write them again using fancy letters.
4. **Finger Paint** - let them get messy and have some sensory fun and finger paint  to spell their words
5. **Flashlight Words** - set up an Alphabet chart, turn out the lights and use a flashlight to shine on each letter (one letter at a time) to spell words.
6. **Flash Writing**- In a darkened room; use a flashlight to write your spelling words in the air. Have a partner read your words as you write them OR a parent can “flash write” your words and your job is to read the words.
7. **Froggy Spelling** - leap like a frog and spell words - 1 letter for each leap.
8. **Glue & Glitter** - Write out spelling words in glue and sprinkle some glitter on top.
9. **Good, Clean Words**- Find a countertop or flat surface that can be cleaned easily. Spray a small amount of shaving cream and spread it out. Write your spelling words in the shaving cream and be sure to clean up afterwards!
10. **Goofy Spelling Story**- Write a goofy spelling story using each of your spelling words. Be sure to underline your words as you use them. Illustrate and color your story!
11. **Hidden Spelling Words** - on a white piece of paper let your child write out the spelling words using a white crayon. Once all words have been written use watercolors and paint to make hidden words appear.
12. **Hidden Words-** Draw a picture and write your spelling words in the picture. Try to hide the words!
13. **Hop & Spell** - hop on one foot as you spell words, this is a great exercise in balance especially with longer words
14. **Hopscotch Words**- Make a hopscotch board on the sidewalk or driveway with chalk. Write letters instead of numbers. You get to HOP your words!
15. **Hula Hoop** and spell words out loud.
16. **Jumpin' Jack** - do jumping jacks as you spell words - 1 jump per letter
17. **Jump Rope** while orally spelling the words.
18. **Letter Writing**- Write a friendly letter to a teacher or friend using each of your spelling words. Underline the spelling words that you use in your letter.
19. **Magnet Letters** - Take a cookie sheet or head for the fridge, add some magnetic letters and spell out the words.
20. **Marble Words** - Use flat bottom decorative marbles to form the letters needed to spell words. You could also use small rocks, decorative gems or whatever you have handy.
21. **Match-Up**- Write each of your words on two different index cards. Turn all the cards face down and mix them up. Lay out your cards in rows (like Concentration) and flip over two cards at a time. Read each card aloud to see it they match. Keep them if they do or flip over and try again.
22. **Morse Code**- Use Morse Code to spell your words. It is a series of dots (1 count) and dashes (3 counts).

Check out this site http://www.morsecode.dutch.nl/alphabet.html to see the international (NATO) Morse Code

so you can practice!

1. **Make Some Music**- Write a song or rap that includes your words! Share with a friend or family member.
2. **Make a Video** - use the household video camera or even your phone to take some quick video of your child spelling the target words.
3. **Memory -** . Have child spell and write 2 sets of words onto flashcards and then play a Memory Game with them.
4. **Microphone** - Spell words into a microphone. There is just something fun about hearing yourself loud and magnified so have fun with it and practice those spelling words too.
5. **Mystery Letters** - write words with missing letters. Child must figure out which mystery letters are missing in order to complete words .
6. **Newsy Words**- Use old magazines, catalogs, or newspapers to cut out letters. Glue the letters down on a

piece of paper to spell your words. \*Helpful Hint: Cut out lots of extra letters. Store them in a Ziploc bag for future use. This is a huge timesaver!

1. **Novelty Erasers** - use small erasers to spell words.
2. **Other Handed**- If you are right handed, write your spelling words using your left hand. If you are left

handed, write your spelling words using your right hand.

1. **Paint (or Hair Gel) Bags** - Pour paint into a ziplock freezer bag and seal. Use fingertips to write words on bag. To erase, simply squish bag and you are ready for the next word.
2. **Paint It!** - use a paintbrush and paint to spell words.
3. **Pasta Words-** Arrange alphabet pasta or Alphabits cereal to form your spelling words. Glue onto a piece of paper.
4. **Pipe Cleaner Words** - use pipe cleaners and bend and form to make letters used to write out the words.



1. **Craft Stick Spelling** - write the necessary letters on craft sticks, mix them up and have child build words using the appropriate sticks.
2. **Partner Spell** - take turns adding a letter to spell each word. For example, for the word FUN - child starts by saying the letter F, parents adds letter U and child then completes word by adding the letter N. This requires focus and listening and is a great exercise for elementary aged learners.
3. **Penny or Coin Spelling** - use pennies or other small coins to make letters and spell out words.
4. **Practice Test**- Take a practice test. Have your Mom or Dad ask you to spell your spelling words. Write them on a list. Check your practice test and correct any missed words. This would be an especially good activity to complete on Thursday night.
5. **Puffy Paint Words** - mix up a batch of [**puffy paint**](http://www.momto2poshlildivas.com/2012/06/summer-fun-homemade-puffy-paint.html), write words and pop them in microwave to watch them puff up.
6. **Pyramid Words**- Write your spelling words in a pyramid shape. Start with the first letter. On the next line, write the first two letters. On the third line, write the first three letters. Continue until you have written the entire word.

Example: them

t

th

the

them

1. **Q-Tip or Toothpick Letters -**use q-tips or toothpicks to build letters and make spelling words.
2. **Q-Tip Writing** - Use q-tips and paint to dot letters to spell the word or write the word using the q-tip as a paint brush.
3. **Rainbow Write**- First write your words using a pencil. Then trace over your words with a crayon. Then trace a second time with a different colored crayon. Finally trace a third time with another different colored crayon. Trace NEATLY and you will see the rainbow!
4. **Rap** - Yes rap! This is so much fun and a great way to - S to the P to the E to the Double L, spells SPELL! Let them have fun with it and get creative. We always end up in fits of giggles and it really doesn't feel like homework.
5. **Reverse Chalk Writing (aka Water Writing)** - an easy and fun twist on writing words on the chalkboard. Use chalk to cover the chalkboard and have your child use a paintbrush dipped in water to write their words over it. The Lil Divas love this reverse chalk writing.
6. **Rhyming Words**- Write each of your spelling words. Next to each word, write a rhyming word. If necessary, your rhyming words can be nonsense words, but make them follow the same spelling pattern.
7. **Riddle Me**- Write a riddle for each of your spelling words. Don’t forget to add the answer to your riddles. Then have a parent, sibling, or friend try to figure out your riddles.
8. **Salt/Sand/Flour Tray** - spell words using finger or paintbrush (great sensory experience too). Put colored construction paper under the salt, sand or flour to make the letters really pop.
9. **Scrabble**- Use Scrabble tiles to spell out your spelling words. For a little extra math practice, figure out the value of each of your words!
10. **Scrambled Words**- Fold a piece of paper three times lengthwise (making three long rectangular columns). Write your words in the first column. Then write them again with the letters all mixed up in the second column. Put your words aside. Come back later to unscramble your words. Write the unscrambled words in the third column.
11. **Secret Agent Words**- Number the alphabet from 1-26. Example: a=1, b=2, c=3, d=4, e=5, etc. Then convert your words to a number code.
12. **Sentence, Please**- Write sentences using each of your spelling words. You may use more than one word in a sentence, but you must write at least 10 sentences. Underline your spelling words.
13. **Shower Spelling** - Spread some shaving cream or bathtub crayons/paint on your shower door or tiled wall over the tub and let your child(ren) finger write words.
14. **Sidewalk Chalk** (or **Paint)** - go outside and spell your words using sidewalk chalk. Just taking the spelling practice outside makes it more fun for kids.
15. **Sign Your Words**- Use sign language finger spelling to sign the spelling of your words. Check out Unity Kid’s site http://www.unitykid.com/signlanguage.html to see animated hands making the letters so you can practice!
16. **Silly Sentences**- Write silly sentences that include your spelling words. Underline your words.
17. **Sing** - Use whatever song or beat you like but a simple B-I-N-G-O like song & some clapping works wonders especially on that first day of practicing words. It really helps kids begin to remember those words.
18. **Small/Medium/Large Words** - Write the word using the smallest letters they can possibly write, then doing it normal sized and finally jumbo sized.
19. **Snap Cube Words** - Those colorful snap cubes aren't just for math. Use them to build letters and form spelling words.
20. **Sound Words**- Use a tape recorder to record your spelling words and their spelling. Then rewind your tape and listen to it, checking to see that you spelled all the words correctly.
21. **Speller-cize**- Pretend you are a cheerleader and call out your words! Raise your hands to the sky for letters that touch the top handwriting line, put hands on your waist for letters in the middle, and touch your toes for letters that go below the bottom line. Examples: bag b(sky)-a(waist)-g(toes) spells bag!

fly f(sky)-l(sky)-y(toes) spells fly!

1. **Spelling Baseball**- Draw four bases on a piece of paper or lay out four pillows to be the bases. The pitcher selects a word. If the batter can spell the word correctly, he moves forward one base. If the batter cannot spell the word, he remains where he is. A point is earned every time you pass home plate. This is a great game play with a friend, sibling, or parent.
2. **Spelling Bee**- Practice your spelling words in Spelling Bee style. Spell your words out loud to a parent or sibling.
3. **Spelling Flashcards**- Make a set of flashcards to practice your spelling words. When you look at your

flashcard, read the word and then spell it out loud. \*Example- there t-h-e-r-e.

1. **Spelling Flowers**- Draw a picture of a great big flower. Write each of your spelling words on one of the
2. flower petals or on a leaf. Draw extra flowers if you run out of room.
3. **Spelling Poem**- Write a poem using several of your spelling words. Underline the words that you use.

Illustrate your poem. You can write any kind of poem that you like.

1. **Spelling Shapes**- Count your spelling words. Draw one shape for each word. Then write your spelling words inside each of the shapes.
2. **Stamp It!** - Use alphabet stamps and ink pads to stamp out words or let child use fingerprints to write words if you don't have letter stamps.
3. **Squiggly Spelling Words**- You are going to write your spelling words two times. First write in regular letters. Then write the words again in squiggly letters!
4. **Story, Story**- Write a story using ALL of your spelling words.
5. **Superman Letter**- Your job is to write a creative letter to Superman (or another superhero). In your letter, you must use each of your spelling words. Be sure to underline your words as you use them.
6. **Surround Words**- Write your words on graph paper. Write “middle” letters, one letter in each box. Use two boxes for “tall” letters like t and l and “low” letters like j and g. Then outline the words using different colors of crayon or colored pencils.
7. **Swat & Spell** - put letter cards on the floor and using a flyswatter, swat the letters in the order necessary to spell words.
8. **Telephone Words**- Look at your telephone keypad. Translate each letter into the numbers on the keypad. Now write your spelling words using this code!
9. **Three Times**- Write your spelling words three times. First write your words in pencil. Second, write each word in crayon. Third, write each word in marker.
10. **Toss a Word**- Toss (or roll) a ball back and forth with a partner. You say the 1st letter, and then toss and your partner says 2nd letter, and so forth.
11. **Trace** - have fun and let kids trace their words on your back or palm. Have them focus on properly forming each letter so you can feel it being drawn.
12. **Trace in the Air** - watch as children trace the letters in the air to spell each word. Make sure your child’s arm and wrist stay straight like a pencil when sky writing.
13. **Trace a Shape**- Draw a shape for each of your spelling words. Then trace each shape by writing your spelling words around them.
14. **Trace Around-** Write each of your spelling words using a pencil. Then trace around each word with a crayon, colored pencil, or a marker.
15. **Tub Spelling** - use foam letters in the tub and stick onto the wall to make words.
16. **Type ‘Em**- Type your spelling words on the computer. Make each word have a different font.
17. **UPPER and lower**- Write your spelling words two times each. The first time, write each word in UPPERCASE letters. Write your words a second time in lowercase letters.
18. **Vowel Circle**- Write each of your spelling words in a list. Then go back and circle all of the vowels in your words! Don’t forget to write neatly!
19. **Which is Correct?** Write words on dry erase board and include misspelled words. Have child identify the correctly spelled words.
20. **Wikki Stix** - What a fun bendable material and perfect to use in building letters to spell words.
21. **Window Writing** - use Crayola Window Markers and write words on windows or sliding glass doors. They wash off easily and writing on windows or doors is so much more fun than boring old paper.
22. **Word Puzzle Scavenger Hunt** - Write words onto construction paper and cut apart letters. Put letters in plastic eggs or other such container and hide around room.  Have child find words you've hidden and put words together correctly like a word puzzle.
23. **Word Search**- Make a word search puzzle using your spelling words. Use the Discovery School’s online Puzzle Maker http://www.puzzlemaker.com. Then find your words!
24. **Words Within Words**- Write each spelling word and then write at least two words made from the same letters. Example: slide side lie lid led etc
25. **Words Without Consonants**- Write your spelling words on a list, but replace all the consonants with a line. Then go back to the beginning of your list and see if you can fill in the correct missing consonants.
26. **Words Without Vowels**- Write your spelling words on a list, but replace all the vowels with a line. Then go back to the beginning of your list and see if you can fill in the correct missing vowels.
27. **Yarn Words** - supply some yarn and scissors and let kids snip and create letters to spell out the words.

**If you come up with an idea that is not on the list, please share it with us!**