

Everyone Can Be a Good Speller

Here is our list of web-based resources to help with spelling instruction.

Sites/Articles of note

www.aft.org/pubs-reports/american_educator/issues/winter05-06/Moats.pdf

Dr. Louisa Moats: "How Spelling Supports Reading (and why it is more regular and predictable than you may think)" is an excellent, very current article with something for everyone, from a leader in the field.

www.resourceroom.net/readspell/index.asp

This is a useful site with articles, activities and resources for parents, tutors and teachers. It uses a structured phonics approach aimed mainly at students from Grade 3 and up.

Resources

www.soundfoundationsbooks.co.uk/

A mastery-based approach to spelling, successful with even the most challenged learners, and with simple instructions easy for parents to implement at home (takes about 15 minutes daily). Fast-paced and interactive. Program developers, Tom and Hilary Burkard, are experienced tutors and instructional designers. Tom became committed to developing good instructional materials after seeing what a difference it made to his own son who was struggling in school until systematic phonics turned him into a superior reader in a matter of months.

www.spelling.org

Don McCabe's site targets older learners (Grade 4 and up) with deficits in reading and written language. There are a number of helpful materials and booklets here, some of which are free and others are very inexpensive. Don will also problem-solve on the phone or via email correspondence. Your best bet is to start on this page: <http://spelling.org/homeschooling.htm>

www.spellzone.com

An inexpensive, self-paced online instructional program in basic English spelling for the secondary, adult or ESL student. Try the first few units for free.

www.candocubes.com/synthetic-phonics-products.php

Sets of tactile, hardwood cubes, each cube being laser engraved with six letters, or combination of letters, representing different sounds of speech. Sets include a DVD for pronunciation guidance, word charts and an instruction book. Very high quality.

<http://edhelper.com/spelling.htm>

Subscription site for teachers – worth the fee, many useful and customizable resources

www.geocities.com/learningcenters2003/words.html

Lots of suggestions for spelling activities (note that these do not replace instruction but may make extra practice more fun for the student)

Free Online Activities and Downloadables

www.literative.com

You need to register for this site, but it is free. There are a variety of pre-reading and early literacy skill stories and activities, many of which support beginning spelling skills. Children especially love the "Snakes and Ladders" game that can be played either solo or with 2 players and requires them to spell simple consonant-vowel-consonant words (bed, rug, etc.)

www.funbrain.com/spell/index.html

www.funbrain.com/spellroo/index.html

www.manythings.org/cts

Spelling games for children. A variety of levels.

www.carlscorner.us

A wealth of resources for teachers, for reading, writing and spelling. K-4.

www.eduplace.com/kids/hmsv/smg

Spelling Match – online game for Grades 1-8