

SPaG Workshop

Workshop aims:

- **To explore the SPaG curriculum.**
- **To explore strategies to support children in the learning of SPaG.**
- **To share practical methods for SPaG and support in the revision of key knowledge.**

What is SPaG?

SPaG is made up of three elements:

- Spelling
- Punctuation
- Grammar

What are the main areas of focus for SPaG in years 3 and 4?

Spelling

- Suffixes (-ing, -en, -fer, -ly, -sure, -ture, -sion, -ous, -our, -or, -tion, -cian)
- Prefixes (dis, mis, in, il, im, ir, re, inter, super, anti auto)
- 'i' sound spelt with a 'y'
- 'k' sound spelt with 'ch'
- Homophones and near homophones

Punctuation

- Apostrophes
- Direct speech
- Commas (after fronted adverbials)

Grammar

- Fronted Adverbials
- Conjunctions
- Paragraphs
- Pronouns/ nouns
- Prepositions

What are the main areas of focus for SPaG in years 5 and 6?

Spelling

- Word endings (-cious, -tious, -cial, -tial, -ant, -ent, -ancy, -ency, -ence, -ance, -ible, -able, -ibly, -ably, -fer)
- Use of a hyphen
- 'i' before 'e' except after 'c'
- Letter strings (ough)
- Silent letters
- Homophones

Punctuation

- Brackets, dashes and commas to indicate parenthesis
- Commas to avoid ambiguity
- Semi-colons, colons and dash to link clauses
- Hyphens to avoid ambiguity

Grammar

- Cohesive devices
- Adverbials
- Passive voice
- Relative clauses
- Modal Verbs
- Expanded noun phrases

Punctuation

Why punctuation matters.
Some people find inspiration in
cooking their families and their
dogs.
Others find inspiration in
cooking, their families,
and their dogs.



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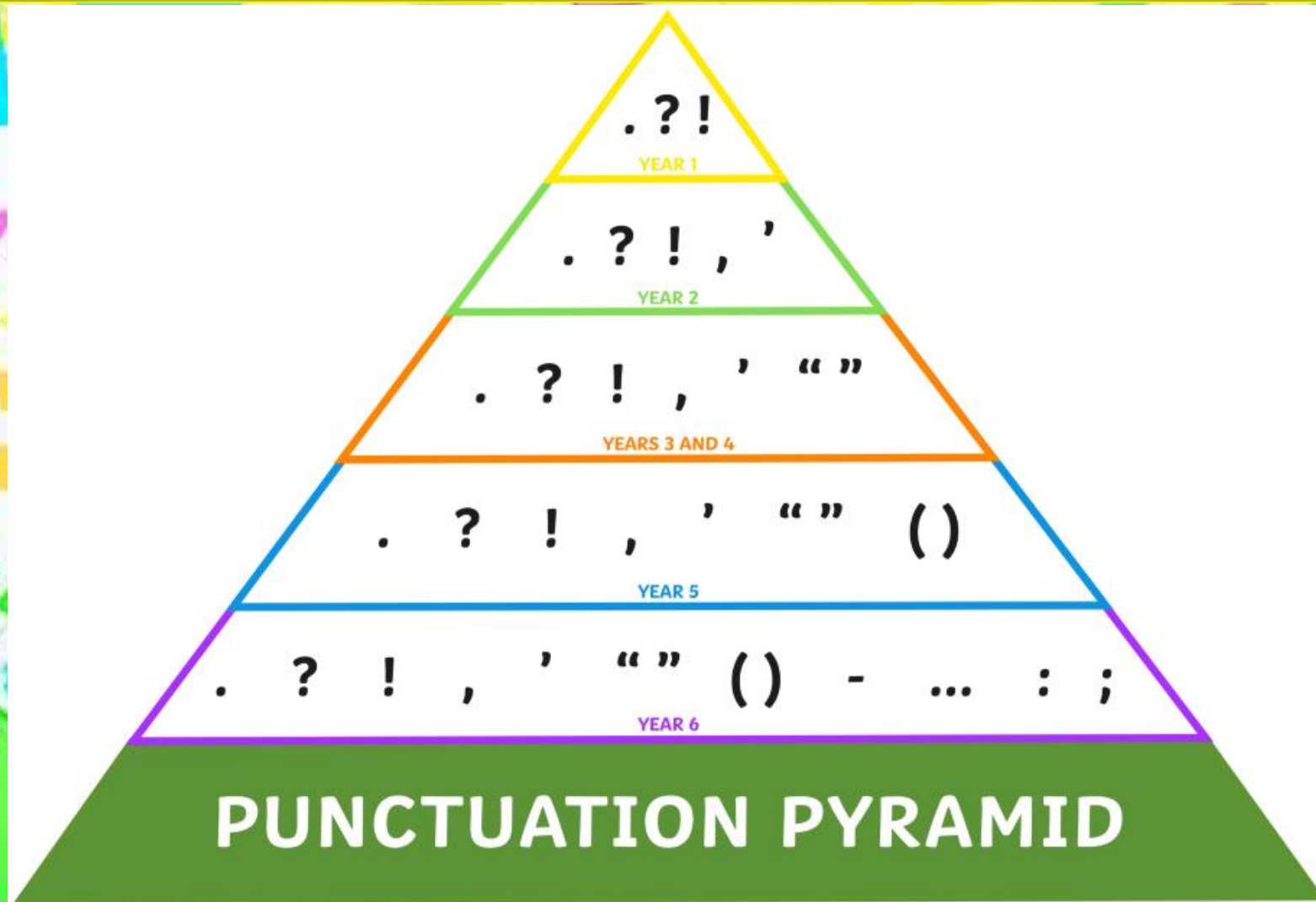
Let's eat grandma!



Let's eat, grandma!

**PUNCTUATION
SAVES LIVES!**

Punctuation



Apostrophes



What do the children need to know?

Apostrophes are used for two reasons:

-possession

-omission/contraction

e.g.

The girl's shoes were muddy. (shoes belong to the girl)

I can't see the board. (can't = can not)

Speech Punctuation

What do the children need to know?

The children must know the rules of speech:

- 1) Speech mark belong around the spoken words.
- 2) Speech begins with a capital letter.
- 3) Use a punctuation mark before closing your speech (? , !)
- 4) Tell the reader who is speaking.
- 5) New speaker, new line.



Mixed Punctuation

What do the children need to know?

During primary education, children should be increasingly accurate with their use of punctuation.

Children should understand the purpose of:

-question marks

-exclamation marks

-inverted commas

-commas

-full stops

-apostrophes



Grammar

LOOK OUT



GRAMMAR POLICE IN TOWN!

Fronted Adverbials

What do the children need to know?

Fronted adverbials are words or phrases at the beginning of sentences used to describe the action that follows.

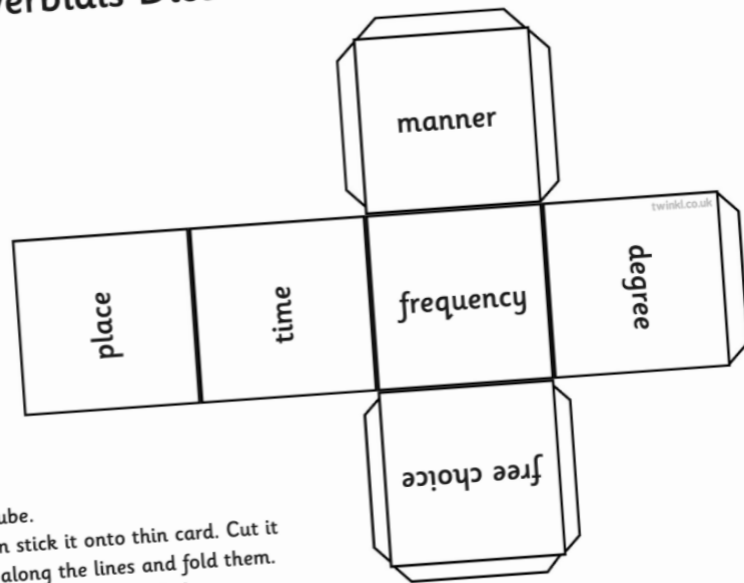
e.g.

Before the sun came up, he ate his breakfast.

As fast as he could, the rabbit hopped.

Silently, he tiptoed to the fridge.

Fronted Adverbials Dice Game



This is a net for a cube.
Print it out and then stick it onto thin card. Cut it
out and then score along the lines and fold them.
Stick together with small amounts of glue.

Conjunctions

What do the children need to know?

There are two main types of conjunctions:

- coordinating
- subordinating

Conjunctions are used to link together word, phrases or clauses.

e.g. She likes pizza but she doesn't like chocolate.

Although she was tired, she went to the park.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	and 1 point	if 6 points	after 7 points	but 4 points	because 5 points	?
2	when 5 points	unless 8 points	but 4 points	if 6 points	before 7 points	while 8 points
3	since 8 points	and 1 point	?	and 1 point	?	as 6 points
4	?	because 5 points	unless 8 points	so 4 points	and 1 point	until 8 points
5	until 8 points	?	as 6 points	while 8 points	since 8 points	so 4 points
6	but 4 points	after 7 points	so 4 points	before 7 points	?	when 5 points

Spelling

My spelling is wobbly.
It's good spelling but it wobbles
and the letters get in
the wrong places.



Spelling is
~~difficoult~~
~~ehalanging~~
hard.

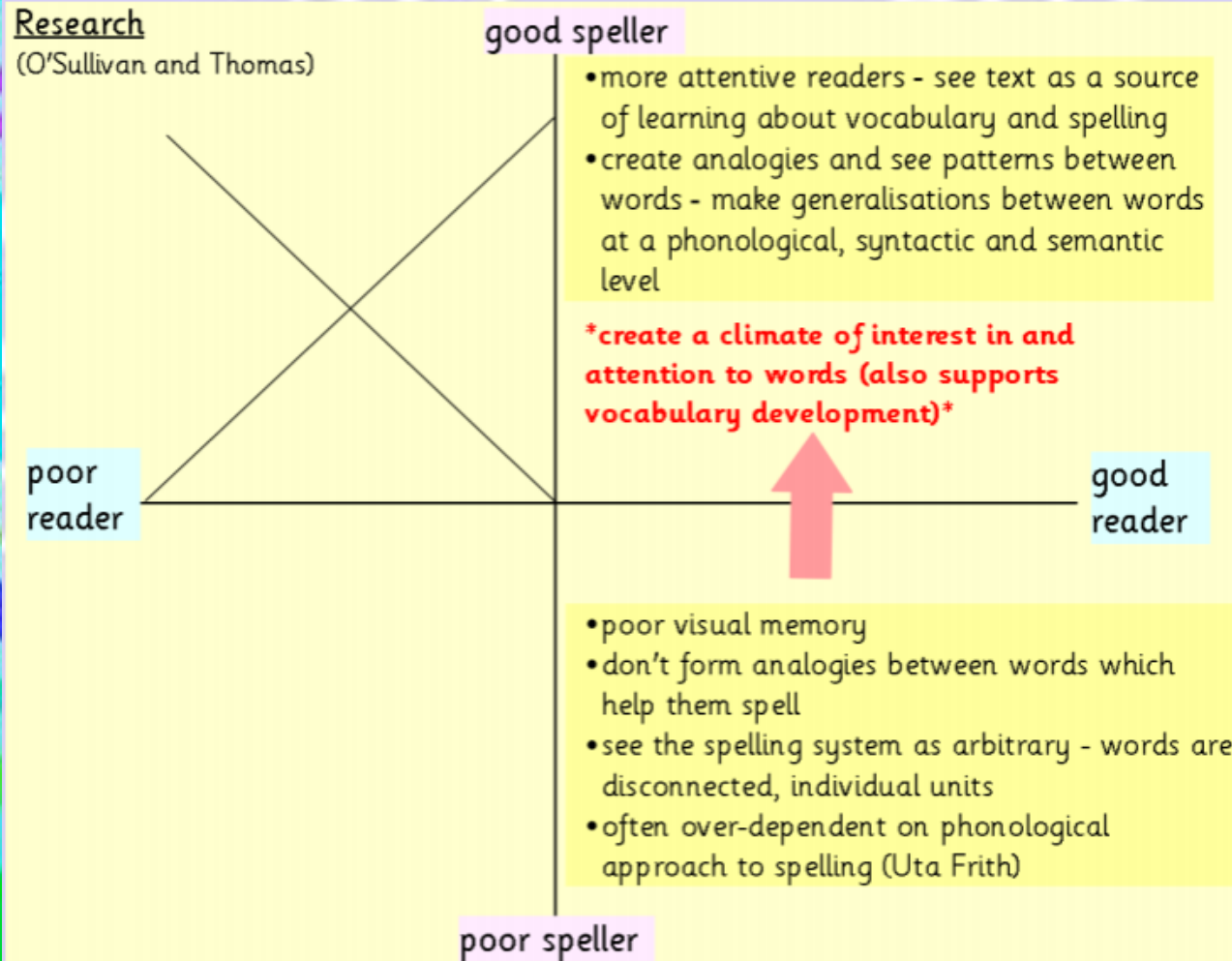
What makes spelling difficult?

The Chaos by Gerard Nolst Trenité,

I take it you already know
Of tough and bough and cough and dough?
Others may stumble, but not you,
On hiccough, thorough, lough and through?
Well done! And now you wish, perhaps,
To learn of less familiar traps?
Beware of heard, a dreadful word
That looks like beard and sounds like bird,
And dead: it's said like bed, not bead—
For goodness sake don't call it deed!
Watch out for meat and great and threat
(They rhyme with suite and straight and debt).

A moth is not a moth in mother,
Nor both in bother, broth in brother,
And here is not a match for there
Nor dear and fear for bear and pear,
And then there's dose and rose and lose —
Just look them up - and goose and choose,
And cork and work and card and ward,
And font and front and word and sword,
And do and go and thwart and cart —
Come, come, I've hardly made a start!
A dreadful language? Man alive!
I'd mastered it when I was five!

Strategies to learn spellings...



Top tip 1:

Research shows that a major factor in the development of spelling knowledge is a focus on reading.

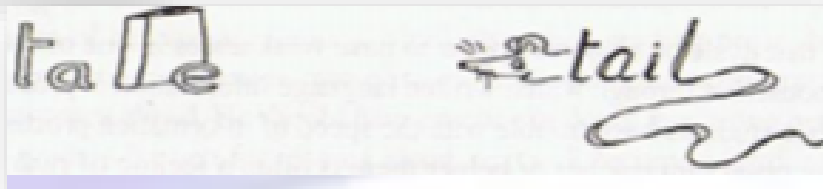
Regular readers are exposed to a greater amount of words and spelling patterns.

Encouraging your child to read regularly will help to support their spelling knowledge.

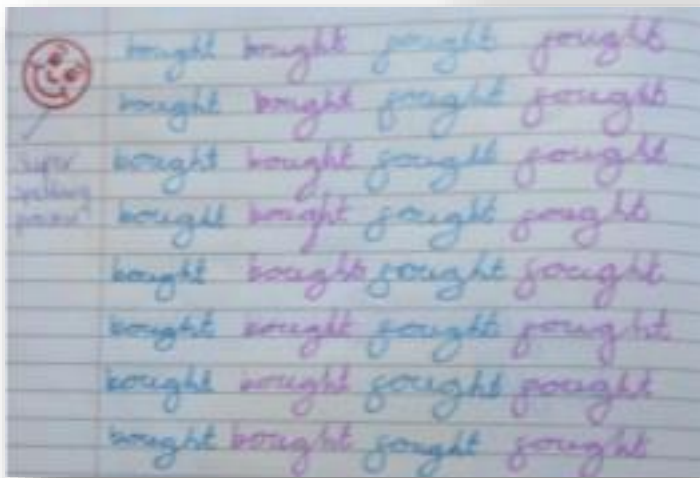
Strategies to learn spellings...



addition



tail



bought bought bought bought
bought bought bought bought
bought bought bought bought
bought bought bought bought
bought bought bought bought
bought bought bought bought
bought bought bought bought

Top tip 2:

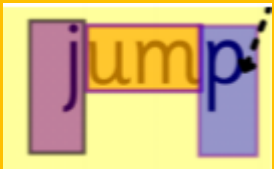
Find the strategies of learning spellings that best suit your child.

- Visual: learns best by visual clues e.g. drawing pictures, shapes or symbols to aid their memory
- Auditory: learns best by saying words out loud e.g. Feb-ru-ary
- Kinaesthetic: learns best by doing e.g. writing out spelling words several times

Strategies to learn spellings...

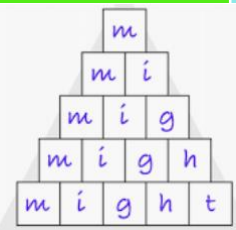
Colour-block trace

Get your child to colour block the letters exactly as they want. Children learn the words in colour blocks.



Pyramid words

Write the word a letter at a time in a pyramid shape. This means children repeat practising the spellings, building up one letter at a time.



Looking...

Naughty letters

Spot the 'naughty' letter/s in a word (the letters they often miss out or get wrong) and write the word with the 'naughty' letter bigger than the rest. They could draw a picture for the letter.

Spot a word in a word

Spot words within their spelling words e.g. 'a rat' in 'separate'. Children can make up a silly sentence to help them remember e.g. There's a rat in sep-a-rat-e.

Strategies to learn spellings...

Say it as it sounds

Mispronounce a tricky word. Read the word exactly as it looks e.g. business = bus-i-ness.

Then look at how it is actually spelt to identify the unusual spelling or letter.

Say the letter aloud to a rhythm

Sing, rap or clap the letters to a rhythm to help memorise it e.g. M-I-SS-I-SS-I-PP-I

Hearing...

Mnemonics

Choose a tricky word with an unusual spelling e.g. ough. Make up a word for each letter e.g. Oh U Grass Hopper. This can be useful for some tricky words, but cannot be used all the time.

Tape Players

Children record themselves saying the word or spelling the word. They listen back to the word and try to write it, they then listen again and check.

Strategies to learn spellings...

Tracing

Get children to write the word very large and trace over it with their finger.

Play games where they write their spelling word with an imaginary pen and say the letters aloud.

Repeat Copying

Write the word three times in different sizes – small, medium and large. Write two words in different fonts or styles.

Doing...

Look, cover, spell, check

Children to write the word then cover it over. Once covered, children write the word again and then reveal their word to check it is correct.

Line up

Children to write each of the letters or their word on small post-it-notes. Mix up the notes and then put them back into the order to correctly spell out their word.

Websites to support learning at home

Oxford Owl: Jargon Buster

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/education-jargon-buster/education-jargon-buster-adverbials-to-arrays/>

Primary Homework Help: Literacy Zone

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/literacy/index.htm>

BBC Bitesize: English

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zv48q6f>

Fun English Games

<http://www.funenglishgames.com/grammargames.html>

Spelling City

<https://www.spellingcity.com/>



Thank you for coming.

Any questions?