

Year One Spelling Patterns

Sound	Rule	Examples of words					Exceptions
v	English words can't end in 'v' so we add an 'e'	have	live	give			
ai, oi	In the middle of a word	rain oil	wait join	train coin	paid point	afraid soil	
y ending		very	happy	funny	party	family	
ff, ll, ss, ck, zz	Flossy Zack If you hear these sounds at the end of a 1 beat word with a short vowel after the vowel you need 2 letters	off	well	miss	buzz	back	if, pal, us, bus, yes
ar	If you see 'ar' you say /ar/. If you hear /ar/ you write 'ar'.	car	start	park	arm	garden	
ee		see	tree	green	meet	week	
er	Stressed sound	her	term	verb	person		
er	Unstressed <i>schwa</i> sound	better	under	summer	winter	sister	
nk	As an ending	bank	think	honk	sunk		
oo		food	pool	moon	soon	zoo	
oo		book	took	foot	wood	good	
ur		turn	hurt	church	burst	Thursday	
oa	/ō/ in the middle of words	boat	coat	road	coach	goal	
or	If you see 'or' you say /or/. If you hear /or/ you write 'or'.	for	short	born	horse	morning	
air		air	fair	pair	hair	chair	
ear		dear	hear	beard	near	year	
ow		now	how	brown	down	town	
igh		high	night	light	bright	right	
ay, oy	At the ends of words or syllables. 'i' can't be at the end in an English word so it grows a tail and 'y' takes over.	day boy	play toy	say enjoy	away annoy	stay	
ph	/f/ is not usually in short everyday words (fat, fill, fun)	dolphin	alphabet	phonics	elephant		
wh	Lazy pronunciation over time	when	where	which	wheel	while	
ea		sea	dream	meat	each	read	
ir		girl	bird	shirt	first	third	
oe		toe	goes				
-tch	Spelt like this if after a short vowel	catch	fetch	kitchen	notch	hutch	Rich, which, much, such
ore	Magic 'e' rotten 'r'.	more	score	before	wore	shore	
aw		saw	draw	yawn	crawl		
au		author	August	dinosaur	astronaut		
ear		bear	pear	wear			
ou		out	about	mouth	around	sound	

ow		own	blow	snow	grow	show	
ue	/Oo/ and /ū/ sounds are spelt as u-e, ue and ew. If oo is at the end then ue/ew are more common oo	blue	clue	true	rescue	Tuesday	
ew		new	few	grew	flew	drew	
ie		lie	tie	pie	cried	tried	
ie		chief	field	thief			
ea		head	bread	meant	instead	read	
s es	Making a plural (or more than 1) End sound is /s/ or /z/ it is s. If forms an extra beat or /iz/ sound then -es Every beat in a word needs a vowel	Cats catches	Dogs bushes	Spends wishes	Rocks misses	thanks	
are	Magic 'e' rotten 'r'.	bare	dare	care	share	scare	
a-e	Split diagraphs -magic 'e' 'e' jumps back over 1 letter to change the short vowel to a long vowel.	made	came	same	take	Safe	
e-e		these	theme	complete			
i-e	/oo/ and /ū/ sounds spelt as u-e	five	ride	like	time	side	
o-e		home	those	woke	hope	hole	
u-e		June	rule	rude	use	tube	
k	If you hear /k/ at the beginning of a word use 'c' if you can but use /k/ before e, i and y	kent	sketch	kit	skin	frisky	
-ed	For regular past tense we always write 'ed'. After a voiceless sound we say /t/. after a voiced sound we say /d/ after 't' or 'd' we say /id/	jumped	buzzed	hunted			
		To check if it should be 'ed' say "I _____ (ed) yesterday can I _____ today. If it makes sense it is a regular past tense. E.g. jumped/jump makes sense and is regular. Slept/slep does not make sense so is not regular past tense so you write what you hear.					
-ing (verb)	Add the suffix where the root word does not change. -ing and -er add an extra syllable. -	hunting		hunter			
-er (noun)		buzzing		buzzer			
		jumping		jumper			
-er -est (adjectives)	If ends in 2 consonants just add the suffix - the root word will not change	grander grandest	fresher freshest	quicker quickest			
-un	Prefix is added without changing the root word to make the opposite meaning	unhappy	undo	unload	unfair	unlock	
Compound words	2 words join together to make a new word	football	playground	farmyard	bedroom	blackberry	