

**Handouts and Samples
for the Students**

From

The Little Spelling Book

by Michelle Karns

Presented in

**Backwards Planning for Success with
Writing Handbook**

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1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.
4.	4.	4.
5.	5.	5.
6.	6.	6.
7.	7.	7.
8.	8.	8.
9.	9.	9.
10.	10.	10.

Spelling Flappers!

#1



- LOOK at the word.



- SAY the word.

- WRITE the word.



- Make a PICTURE
In your mind.

STOP! Go to FLAP 2

#2

- Illustrate the word.

- Write the word.

- Check the word.

Now, **GO** to FLAP 3
if you are correct.

... If you made an error,
STOP! And return to
FLAP 1

#3

- Rewrite word
from memory.

- Use the word in a
“formal” sentence.

Now, **GO** back to FLAP 1
to the next word
on the list.

Congratulations!

MY WORD WALL _____

Aa

Bb

Cc

Dd

Ee

Ff

Gg

Hh

Ii

Jj

Kk

Ll

MY WORD WALL _____

Mm

Nn

Oo

Pp

Qq

Rr

Ss

Tt

Uu

Vv

Ww

XxYyZz

Name: _____ Date: _____

SPELLING BINGO

1.	2.	3.
4.	5.	6.
7.	8.	9.

The teacher will say all of the spelling words. Pick nine words you think you can spell correctly and write them on this card. Then the teacher will say and spell each word out loud. Check your spelling of each word on your card as the teacher calls them out. When you have three correctly spelled words in a row (down, across, or diagonally) raise your hand. The teacher will check your card.

My Spelling Paper _____

1.		8.		15.	
2.		9.		16.	
3.		10.		17.	
4.		11.		18.	
5.		12.		19.	
6.		13.		20.	
7.		14.			

1.		8.		15.	
2.		9.		16.	
3.		10.		17.	
4.		11.		18.	
5.		12.		19.	
6.		13.		20.	
7.		14.			

1.		8.		15.	
2.		9.		16.	
3.		10.		17.	
4.		11.		18.	
5.		12.		19.	
6.		13.		20.	
7.		14.			

Spelling Rules 1

There are three ways a vowel may be long:

- a. at the end of a syllable. ba by
Why is the saying /a/? Because it is at the end of the syllable.
- b. In old, ind, ild, ost, olt. (I find most bold colts wild.)
Do we need a silent e at the end of the word to make the o say /o/? No, the o say /o/ in old. When reading back the word ask, Why does the o say /o/?
- c. When the silent e makes the vowel long. line
What must we do to make the i say /i/?
When reading back the word ask, *Why does the i say /i/?*

There must be a reason for a silent e unless it is a *no reason silent e*.
(Memorize the chart below.)

line	1 The silent e makes the vowel long.
give	2 Words may not end in v so we add a silent e .
dance	3 the silent e makes the c say s .
large	4 The silent e makes the g say j .
ap ple	5 Every syllable must have a vowel. (There is no vowel in pl.)
house	6 When s is not doubled after two vowels or a consonant, add a silent e .
come	n.r. No reason silent e.

- **c** says /s/ before **e** or **i**. **Face**
When you are dictating the word, tell the students to write c. When reading the word, ask, *Why does the c say /s/?*
- **g** may say /j/ before **e** or **i**. **Age**
When you are dictating the word, tell the students to write g. If it is at the end of the word, ask, *What must we do to make the g say /j/?* When reading the word ask, *Why does the g say /j/?*
- **y** is usually used to say /i/ at the end of a one syllable word; /e/ at the end of a two syllable word.
Cry Lady
What letter do we use to say /e/ (or /i/) at the end of a word?

Spelling Rules 2

- There are five ways of writing /er/. Her first nurse works early. After the students say /er/, give them the key word for the sound. When the sound is /wor/, ask them, *What phonogram says /er/ after w?*
- We often double **l**, **f**, **s** at the end of a word after only one short or dotted vowel. When **s** follows two vowels or a consonant and it is not doubled, we add a silent **e**. **will off miss** (house)
How many vowels are there before the l? Is it long or short? So what must we do to the l? Double it.
- **ay** is used to say /a/ at the end of the word. **Day** *May we use the a by itself at the end of the word?*
- To say /k/, **c** is used at the beginning of the word, except before **e** or **i** we use **k**; **k** is used at the end of the word, except after only one short vowel, we use ck.
Cat **Kill** **Sick**
- **dge** is used after one short vowel. **Bridge**
- **i** before **e** except after **c** and when it says /a/.
believe **receive** **veil**
Do we use ei or ie (spell phonogram) in this word? Why?
- **ti, si, ci** are used to say /sh/ at the beginning of the second or third syllable.
station **session** **racial**
Ask, What phonogram do we use to say /sh/ at the beginning of the second syllable?
And then tell them which one to use.
- The **1-1-1** rule: Words of one syllable, ending in one vowel and one consonant, double the last consonant, when adding an ending beginning with a vowel.
- When adding an ending beginning with a vowel to a word that ends with a silent **e**, drop the **e** and add the ending.
- When another syllable is added to all, till and full, drop one l.
- **S** never follows **x**, because the /s/ sound is in the **x**. (However, **c** sometimes follows **x**.)
expect **(except)**
Ask, Where is the /s/ sound?
- When adding an ending to a word that ends with a **y**, change the **y** to **i** unless the ending is **ing**.
Cried **Crying**
- Words that are names are capitalized. When reading back the words ask, *Why did we use a capital?*
- We often use a double consonant between two syllables to keep the vowel in the first syllable short.
Happen
- **Tch** is used to say the first sound of the /ch/ after only one vowel except in rich, which, much and such.
Watch
- **U** may say /o/ at the end of the syllable. Also the silent **e** may take the **u** say /o/.
Duty **Rule**

Word Root Index

PREFIXES & SUFFIXES		WORD ROOTS			
a-, an-	(not or without)	acer-, acri-	(bitter)	man-, manu-	(by hand)
ab-	(separation)	anthrop-, a	(man)	matr-, mater-	(mother)
-able	(power)	arch-	(ruler)	medi-	(half, middle)
ad-	(toward)	aud-, aus-	(hear)	meter-	(measure)
ana-	(up, again)	auto-	(self)	migra-	(wander)
anti-, ant-	(against)			miso-	(hate)
		bon-, ben-	(good)	mitt-, miss-	(send)
cata-, cat-	(down)	biblio, bibl-	(book)	mob-, mot-, mov-	(move)
circum-, circ-	(around)	bio-	(life)	monstr-	(to show)
con-, com-, coh-	(with; together)			mort-, mors-	(death)
contr-, contra-	(against)	calor-	(heat)		
		cap-, capit-	(chief, head)	neur-	(nerve)
de-	(away)	cardi-	(heart)	nov-	(new)
dia-	(through)	chrom-	(color)		
dis-	(take away)	civ-	(citizen)	omni-	(all)
dyn-, dynamo-	(power)	clam-, claim-	(cry out)	oper-, opus-	(work)
		corp-, corpor-	(body)	oss-, osteo-	(bone)
		cred-	(believe)		
e-, ec-, ef-	(out)	curs-, curr-	(to run)	pan-	(all)
endo-	(within)	cyclo-	(wheel)	part, pater-	(father)
eu-	(well, good)			path-	(feeling, disease)
ex-	(out)	dem-, demo-	(people)	pend-, pen-	(hand)
extra-	(outside)	derm-	(skin)	phil-, philo-	(love)
		dic-, dict-	(say)	pict, picot-	(to paint)
hyper-	(over)	duc-, duce-, duct-	(lead)	pneuma-, pnemon-	(breath)
hypo-	(under)	ego-	(I, self)	poli-, polis-	(city)
				poly-	(many)
in-	(within, into)	feder-, fid-	(trust)	pop-	(people)
intro-	(within)	forc-, fort-	(strong)	port-	(carry)
				pos-, pound-	(place)
juxta-	(near, next)	gam-	(marriage)	pot-, poss-	(power)
		geo-, ge-	(earth)	prim-, primer-	(first)
-less	(without)	gest-	(carry)		
mal-	(bad, evil)	gnosi-, cognos-	(to know)	roga-, rog-	(ask)
mono-, mon-	(one)	graph-	(write, record)		
non-	(not)	grat-	(pleasing)	sat-, satis-	(enough)
		greg-	(flock)	scope-	(water, see)
-ology	(the study of)	gyn-	(woman)	sens-, sent-	(to feel)
ortho-	(correct, straight)			soph-	(wisdom)
		habit-, hab-	(have, life)	spec-, spect-	(inspect, examine)
post-	(after, behind)	hema-, hemo-	(blood)		
pre-	(before)	hum-	(earth)	tact-, tang-	(touch)
		hydr-, hydro-, hydra-	(water)	tent-, tent-	(hold)
re-	(back, again)			test-	(bear witness)
retro-	(backwards)	jac-, ject-	(throw)	tract-, trah	(draw, pull)
		jud-, judic-	(law)	trib-	(pay)
sub-	(underneath)	jus-, jur-	(law)		
super-	(over, above)	laud-	(praise)	uni-	(one, single)
syn	(together)	leg-	(law)	vali-, vale-	(strength)
		lic, licit-	(permit)	ver-, veri-	(true, genuine)
tele-	(far, distant)	loc-, loco-	(place)	vict-, vinc-	(to conquer)
tra-, trans-	(across, over)	loqui-, loc-	(speak)	vis-, vid-	(see)
		luc-, lum-, lun-	(light)	viv-, vita-	(alive)
un-	(not)	lucr-	(gain)	voc-, vok-	(voice)

Word Roots and Combining Forms

A root is the simple element from which a more complex word is derived, often by means of the addition of prefixes, suffixes, and/or other combining forms.

Roots	Definitions	Examples
act	do	Action
-agogue	leader	demagogue
-agr-, ager	field	Agriculture
altus, alte	high	Altitude
alter	other (of two)	alternate
annus, anno	year	Annual
anthrop-, -anthrop	human being, man	Misanthrope
aqui, aqua-	water	Aquatic
arch-	chief, principal	Anarchy
astr-, astro-	star	Astronomy
aut-, auto-	self, same one	Autobiography
brevi-	short	abbreviation
cand	white, bright, shining	incandescent
captus	take, seize, hold	capture
caput, capitis	head	cap, capital
cent	hundred	century, percent
chron-, chrono-	time	chronological
citare	put in motion	citation
clarus	clear	Clarity
cogito	think	cogitate
cogna-, cogni-	know	recognize
cosm-, cosmo-, -cosm	order, world	Cosmopolitan
cred-	believe	incredible
cuipa	blame, guilt, sin	culprit
cycle	circle, wheel, ring	bicycle
dem-, demo-	people, population	democracy
derm-, derma-, -derm	skin	epidermis
dict-	say, speak	diction, edict
doc-, doct-	instruct, teach	docent, doctor
dominus	master, of the house, ruler, lord	dominate
flex	bend	flexible
flor, flora	flower	floral, florist
flux	flow	influx
fort	strong	fortify
fragilis	frail, easily broken	fragile
fus-	pour, melt	fusion
-gon	angle	polygon
-gram	drawing, writing	telegram
gratus	pleasing, thankful	gratitude
gregarious	of or relating to a crowd, flock or herd	Gregarious

Roots	Definitions	Examples
hem-, hema-, hemo-	blood	hemorrhage
hydr-, hydro	water	hydrofoil
iacto	to throw, cast or fling	eject, interject
is-, iso-	equal, homogenous	isometric

Word Roots and Combining Forms

Roots	Definitions	Examples
liber	to free	liberate
locus	a single place	Location
logos, logi	word, words	monologue
magnus	great, large	magnify, magnitude
manus	the hand	manufacture
mare	the sea	marine, maritime
mega-	great, large	megaphone
mitto, mittere	to send or dispatch	missive, remit, transmit
mobilito	to set in motion	Mobilize
navigo	to sail	navigate
ne-, neo	new	neoclassic
nego, negare	to say no	negate, negative
-nomy	system of laws or sum or knowledge regarding	agronomy, autonomy
novus	fresh, new, young, inexperienced	novel, novice
ocul-, oculo-	having to do with the eye	binoculars, ocular
pan-	all	Pan-American, panorama
paed-, ped-	child	pediatrics
phil-, philo-	loving	Philanthropic
phon-, phono-	sound, voice, speech	phonograph
phot-, photo-	light	photography, photon
porto, portare	to bear, bring, or carry	portable, transport
prior, primus	former, first	primacy, primary
psych-, psycho-	brain, mind, soul, spirit	psychic, psychoanalysis, psychotherapy
pyr-, pyro-	fire, heat	pyrogenic, pyromania
rogo, rogare	to ask or question	Interrogate
rumpere, ruptum	to break or shatter	interrupt, rupture
scribere, scriptum	to write	prescribe, script
secare, sectum	to cut	dissect, intersection
solus, soli	alone, only	solely, solitary
somnus	sleep, slumber	insomnia, somnambulate
sono, sonare	to sound, resound, or make a noise	resonant, sonata, sonorous, unison
struo, struere, structum	to put together, to put in order, to build	construct, destructive, structure
techno-	art, craft, skill	technique, technology
tempus, temporis	a period of time	contemporary, temporal
tenuo, tenuare	to make thin, fine, slender or slight	attenuated, tenuous

Roots	Definitions	Examples
termino, terminare	to bound, limit, or make an end to	coterminous, terminate
terra	earth, land	terrain, terrarium
testor, testare	to bear witness to, to give evidence of	testify
therm-, thermo-	heat	thermos, thermometer
torquare, tortum	to twist, wind, or wrench	contort, distort, torsion
tribuere, tributum	to divide out or allot, to assign, give or pay out to agitate, to throw into to disorder and confusion	disturb, turbulence

Capitalization Rules

- 1. Days of the week, months of the year, holidays, directions**
Example: November, December, Monday, Tuesday, Valentine's Day
Directions are capitalized only when used as sections of the country, not as compass directions.
Example: We moved to the Southwest. San Francisco is west of Sacramento.
- 2. First word in a sentence, and a sentence that is a direct quote**
Example: When he tells a joke, he sometimes forgets the punch line.
Someone once said, "Time heals all wounds."
- 3. Names of countries, nationalities, and specific languages**
Example: Costa Rica, United States of America, and Spanish
- 4. Names of people, members of national, political, racial, social, civic groups**
Example: *George Green*, President *George Bush*.
Green Bay Packers, African-Americans
- 5. Titles of people**
Preceding names, but not titles that follow names.
Example: She assisted Mayor Bell. I interviewed Jim Bell, mayor of Dallas.
- 6. Pronoun "I"**
Example: The last time I visited Atlanta was many years ago.
- 7. Proper/common nouns**
Examples:
Organizations: Supreme Court, Atlantic Ocean, Worrill Manufacturing Co.
Family: Aunt Abigail, here is a present I bought for Mother.
God, deities, etc.: God the Father, Moses, Buddha, Zeus. The non-specific use of god as a word, as in "He looked like a god," is not capitalized.
- 8. Periods and events (but not century numbers)**
Example: Victorian Era, The Great Depression, Constitutional Convention
- 9. Titles of art**
Example: Rodin's, The Thinker, is a fantastic piece of sculpture.
- 10. Titles of written works (except for short prepositions if they are not the first word of the title)**
Example: One of José's favorite books is The Catcher in the Rye.
- 11. Trademarks**
Example: Pepsi, Microsoft Word, IBM, Honda.
- 12. Words and abbreviations of specific names**
Example: NBC, UN (United Nations).

Complete List of Spelling Rules for Nouns and Verbs

Rules for Irregular Plural Formation of Nouns

Variations of the final -s rule:

- Nouns that end with *-s, -z, -x, -sh, -ch*
Add *-es*
glass/glasses, buzz/buzzes, box/boxes, bush/bushes, switch/switches
- Nouns that end in *-o*
Add *-es*
potato/potatoes, echo/echoes, hero/heroes
exceptions: *studio/studios, piano/pianos, kangaroo/kangaroos, zoo/zoos*
either: *buffalo/buffalo(e)s, cargo/cargo(e)s, motto/motto(e)s, volcano/volcano(e)s*
- Nouns that end in a consonant + *-y*
Change *-y* to *-i* and add *-es*
baby/babies, spy/spies, poppy/poppies
- Nouns that end in *-f*, or *-fe*
Change the *-f* to *-v* and add *-es*
shelf/shelves, wolf/wolves, knife/knives, wife/wives

Nouns adopted from other languages:

- Singular ends in *-is*
Plural ends in *-es*
analysis/analyses, basis/bases
- Singular ends in *-um*
Plural ends in *-a*
datum/data, curriculum/curricula
- Singular ends in *-on*
Plural ends in *-a*
criterion/criteria, phenomenon/phenomena
- Singular ends in *-a*
Plural ends in *-ae*
formula/formulae, antenna/antennae

- Singular ends in **-ex** or **-ix**
Plural ends in **-ices**
appendix/appendices, index/indices
- Singular ends in **-us**
Plural ends in **-i**
focus/foci, stimulus/stimuli
- Singular ends in **-us**
Plural ends in **-a**
corpus/corpora, genus/genera
- Singular ends in **-eau**
Plural ends in **-eaux**
bureau/bureaux, beau/beaux

Nouns that have only a plural form and so take a plural verb

- Things that come in pairs
Tools: **glasses, scissors, binoculars, forceps, tongs, tweezers**
Clothes: **jeans, pants, pajamas, shorts, trousers**
- Nouns that end in **-s** but have no singular (aggregate nouns) **accommodations, amends, archives, arms (weapons), bowels, intestines, brains (intellect), clothes, communications, congratulations, contents, stairs, thanks, goods**
- Nouns that are plural but do not end in **-s**
people, police, cattle, people

by Susan Jones

Irregular Nouns

SINGULAR	PLURAL	SINGULAR	PLURAL
alumnus	alumni	man	men
analysis	analyses	matrix	matrices
antenna	antennae/antennas	means	means
appendix	appendices	medium	media
axis	axes	mouse	mice
basis	bases	oasis	oases
beau	beaux	ox	oxen
bureau	bureaus	paralysis	paralyses
child	children	parenthesis	parentheses
corpus	corpuses	phenomenon	phenomena
crisis	crises	radius	radii
criterion	criteria	series	series
curriculum	curricula	sheep	sheep
datum	data	species	species
deer	deer	stimulus	stimuli
diagnosis	diagnoses	synthesis	syntheses
fish	fish	synopsis	synopses
focus	foci/focuses	thesis	theses
foot	feet	tooth	teeth
formula	formulae/formulas	vertebra	vertebrae
fungus	fungi/funguses	vita	vitae
goose	geese	woman	women
hypothesis	hypotheses		
index	indeces/indexes		
louse	lice		

Susan Jones

Plurals

A noun is the name of the person, place, thing, quality, or idea. A noun that is singular names only one person, place, thing, quality, or idea. A noun that is plural names more than one.

The plurals of many singular nouns are formed simply by adding the letter s to the end of the noun.

ant	ants	monster	monsters
book	books	pencil	pencils
card	cards	pool	pools
girl	girls	ring	rings
hat	hats	school	schools

The plurals of most nouns ending in the letters ch, s, sh, x, and z are formed by adding the letters es to the end of the noun.

ax	axes	guess	guesses
box	boxes	match	matches
branch	branches	speech	speeches
bush	bushes	tax	taxes
church	churches	watch	watches
fox	foxes	wish	wishes
gas	gases		

To form the plural of a noun ending in y preceded by a vowel, add the letter s to the end of the noun.

boy	boys	monkey	monkeys
chimney	chimneys	tray	trays
donkey	donkeys	trolley	trolleys
journey	journeys	turkey	turkeys
key	keys	volley	volleys

To form the plurals of a noun ending in y preceded in a consonant, change the y to i and add the letters es.

berry	berries	daisy	daisies
body	bodies	penny	pennies
bunny	bunnies	sky	skies
city	cities	story	stories

Plurals

To form the plural of a noun ending in f preceded by a vowel, simply add the letter s to the end of the noun.

belief	beliefs	reef	reefs
chef	chefs	roof	roofs

To form the plural of a noun ending in f preceded by a consonant, change the f to v and add the letters es.

calf	calves	shelf	shelves
elf	elves	wharf	wharves
half	halves	wolf	wolves
self	selves		

To form the plural of a noun ending in o preceded by a vowel, simply add the letter s to the end of the noun.

Bamboo	bamboos	radio	radios
cameo	cameos	rodeo	rodeos
folio	folios	studio	studios

To form the plural of a noun ending in o preceded by a consonant, add the letters es to the end of the noun.

cargo	cargoes	potato	potatoes
echo	echoes	tomato	tomatoes
hero	heroes	veto	veto

Some nouns ending in o preceded by a consonant are an exception to this rule. The plurals of these nouns are formed simply by adding the letter s.

alto	altos	piano	pianos
Eskimo	Eskimos	soprano	sopranos

Contractions

A contraction is a shortened form of a single word or of a word pair. An apostrophe is used to show where a letter or letters have been omitted to create the shortened form.

Be (present)		Will (future)	
I'm	I am	I'll	I will
you're	you are	you'll	you will
he's	he is	he'll	he will
she's	she is	she'll	she will
it's	it is	it'll	it will
we're	we are	we'll	we will
they're	they are	they'll	they will
who're	who are	who'll	who will

Have (present)		Would (future)	
I've	I have	I'd	I would
you've	you have	you'd	you would
		he'd	he would
		she'd	she would
we've	we have	we'd	we would
they've	they have	they'd	they would

Not		and More	
isn't	is not	I'd	I had
aren't	are not	he'd	he had
won't	will not	let's	let us
can't	cannot	that's	that is, that has
wouldn't	would not		
don't	do not	what's	what is, what has
doesn't	does not		
haven't	have not	where's	where is, where has
hasn't	has not		
hadn't	had not	who's	who is, who has
shouldn't	should not		
mightn't	might not		
mustn't	must not		

Syllables

Here is a list of rules for dividing words into syllables.

1. A syllable is a group of letters sounded together.
2. Each syllable must have at least one vowel sound: a word can not have more syllables than vowels.
3. Words pronounced as one syllable should not be divided.
dive helped through
4. A word containing two consonants between two vowels (vccv) is divided between the two consonants.
cor-rect pret-ty sis-ter
5. In a two syllable word containing a single consonant between two vowels (vcv), the consonant usually begins the second syllable.
po-tion to-day
6. In a word ending in -le, the consonant immediately preceding the -le usually begins the last syllable.
can-dle mar-ble ta-ble
7. Compound words usually are divided between their word parts.
down-stairs rain-bow sun-shine

Here is a list of rules for the way syllables are accented.

1. In a two-syllable word containing a double consonant, the first syllable is usually accented.
hap'py rib'bon
2. In a two-syllable word where the second syllable has two vowels, the second syllable is usually accented.
con ceive' de fraud' pre mier'
3. In words ending in **ion**, **sion**, **-ial**, and **-ical**, the syllable preceding these endings is usually accented.
dis cus' ion ex ten' sion of fi cial
4. In a word containing a prefix, the accent usually falls on or within the root word.
comp pose' in doors' re ply'
5. In a compound word, the accent usually falls on or within the first word.
black' board court' house farm' hand