



Sounds-Write Advice to Parents



We aim, through the teaching of Sounds-Write phonics, for all children to be able to read and write accurately and confidently. The Sounds-Write phonic method encourages young readers to process every sound in the word which he/she is attempting to read or spell. As parents there are a number of ways in which you can help your child to develop strong phonic skills which will help them to become fully literate:

1. Don't encourage your child to guess a word or to try to remember it because they saw it on a previous page. Instead, encourage him/her to work carefully through the word saying the sounds and blending them together to hear or read the word.
2. If your child is struggling on a particular word, it is O.K. to help him out and just say the word. You should say the word slowly as you run your finger under it to encourage the child to see how what you say is written from left to right - sounds and spellings.
3. Don't let your child try to read or spell a word by saying the names of the letters and don't say to him something like "bee-oe-ay-tee > boat" or "buh - o - a tuh'. This is not helpful to a child who is learning the sound>spelling correspondences of English.
4. If your child misreads a word, you should repeat what he/she said as you point precisely to where he went wrong try to explain the error; then get him to try reading it again himself. In other words, help him to see his own mistakes and sort them out, rather than jumping in too quickly with the whole word.
5. When your child is writing and learning spellings, encourage him/her to say the **sounds** of the words as he/she writes the corresponding letter/s.

At the 'look' stage of learning spellings, help him/her to recognise and pay special attention to the 'tricky' part/parts of the word. This will usually be where 2 or more letters are spelling 1 sound and also where there are various ways to spell that sound e.g. for the sound "oe" o/oa/ow/oe/o-e.

It is 'loaf' not lowf or lofe (although it could be!!). Recall of what looks right will come with practice and exposure through regular reading.

To learn to spell a word, he/she should write the word out as he/she looks at it, saying all the sounds as he/she writes the letters, taking special note of the 'tricky part' which you must remember especially. You should test your child's spellings by getting him to write them down rather than by calling out the letter names as this is the way he will have to recall them in class, and in real life.

www.sounds-write.co.uk

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