



First grade spelling words: the year at a glance

How to use: Monday pretest • 10 minutes a day • Friday test • tick the week when every word is right



said

The tinted part under a heart does not follow the rules yet: learn that part by heart.

☐ Week 1	Short a, i, o cat, dog	☐ Week 19	-ed jumped, landed
☐ Week 2	Short u, e cup, bed	☐ Week 20	Two-syllable words sunset, robot
☐ Week 3	Beginning blends frog, swim	☐ Week 21	tch and dge catch, bridge
☐ Week 4	Ending blends hand, jump	☐ Week 22	-old, -ind, -ild, -ost cold, find
☐ Week 5	ff, ll, ss, zz and -all bell, ball	☐ Week 23	y as a vowel fly, happy
☐ Week 6	ck at the end duck, sock	☐ Week 24	-le at the end apple, table
☐ Week 7	sh ship, fish	☐ Week 25	Review: weeks 18-24 judge, pebble
☐ Week 8	th thin, bath	☐ Week 26	Bossy r: ar car, shark
☐ Week 9	ch and wh chip, lunch	☐ Week 27	Bossy r: or, ore corn, store
☐ Week 10	ng and nk ring, pink	☐ Week 28	Bossy r: er, ir, ur bird, turn
☐ Week 11	Review: weeks 5-10 dress, clock	☐ Week 29	Vowel teams: ai, ay rain, play
☐ Week 12	Magic e: a_e cake, snake	☐ Week 30	Vowel teams: ee, ea tree, eat
☐ Week 13	Magic e: i_e bike, kite	☐ Week 31	Vowel teams: oa, ow boat, snow
☐ Week 14	Magic e: o_e home, rope	☐ Week 32	Vowel teams: ie, igh pie, light
☐ Week 15	Magic e: u_e cube, flute	☐ Week 33	Review: weeks 26-32 smart, snowman
☐ Week 16	Soft c and g: -ce, -ge face, cage	☐ Week 34	oo and ew moon, book
☐ Week 17	Review: magic e brave, globe	☐ Week 35	ou, ow, oi, oy cloud, boy
☐ Week 18	-es and -ing boxes, jumping	☐ Week 36	Year-end review rainbow, playground

Shaded weeks are review weeks with new words. The full lists, tricky words and a sentence for each week are on pages 2 to 4; the test sheet is page 5.



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Weeks 1-12

Heart = learn that part by heart. [Brackets] = say this too, so the word is clear.

Week 1 Short a, i, o

cat	map	bag
pig	sit	lid
dog	hot	

TRICKY: the of

Say it, write it: The lid of the pot is hot.

Week 2 Short u, e

cup	mud	rug
tub	bed	hen
wet	leg	

TRICKY: said was

Say it, write it: He said the rug was wet.

Week 3 Beginning blends

frog	crab	drum
flag	sled	step
swim	spot	

TRICKY: to [I want to go] do

Say it, write it: Do not swim to the flag.

Week 4 Ending blends

hand	nest	jump
milk	tent	lamp
gift	best	

TRICKY: from want

Say it, write it: I want a lamp from the tent.

Week 5 ff, ll, ss, zz and -all

bell	hill	miss
off	buzz	ball
tall	small	

TRICKY: you have

Say it, write it: You will have a big red ball.

Week 6 ck at the end

back	duck	kick
lock	neck	sock
truck	stick	

TRICKY: has his

ck right after a short vowel (duck, kick); after a consonant, just k (milk, week 4).

Say it, write it: His duck has a black neck.

Week 7 sh

ship	shop	fish
dish	wish	shell
brush	shut	

TRICKY: could should

could and should share ou; would joins them in week 18.

Say it, write it: Should we fish from the ship?

Week 8 th

thick	that	them
then	with	bath
thin	moth	

TRICKY: they there [over there]

Say it, write it: They said there is a moth in the bath.

Week 9 ch and wh

chip	chin	chick
chop	much	lunch
bench	when	

TRICKY: what where [where is it?]

Say it, write it: Where can we sit when we get lunch?

Week 10 ng and nk

sing	ring	long
swing	pink	drink
think	thank	

TRICKY: who two [the number 2]

Say it, write it: Who has two pink rings?

Week 11 Review: weeks 5-10

spell	dress	clock
fresh	chest	cloth
string	blank	

TRICKY: said they

Say it, write it: They said the dress was in the trunk.

Week 12 Magic e: a_e

cake	game	lake
name	gate	plate
snake	shape	grape

TRICKY: are

The ar in are is bossy r (week 26); until then, learn the whole word by heart.

Say it, write it: The grapes are on the plate.



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Weeks 13-24

Heart = learn that part by heart. [Brackets] = say this too, so the word is clear.

Week 13 Magic e: i_e

bike kite five
ride time smile
slide white

TRICKY: give live [to live]

Say it, write it: I will give him a white kite.

Week 14 Magic e: o_e

home bone rope
stone note joke
hope broke

TRICKY: come some [some of it]

Say it, write it: The dog will come home with some bones.

Week 15 Magic e: u_e

cube cute mule
tube flute rule
tune rude

TRICKY: here [come here] were
u_e says /yoo/ in cube, cute and mule, /oo/ in tube, rule, flute, tune and rude.

Say it, write it: The cute mules were here.

Week 16 Soft c and g: -ce, -ge

face race space
rice mice nice
page cage

TRICKY: one [the number 1] once

Say it, write it: Once, one of the mice ran in a race.

Week 17 Review: magic e

flame brave shine
stripe globe smoke
huge price

TRICKY: come were

Say it, write it: We were brave on the huge slide.

Week 18 -es and -ing

dishes boxes foxes
wishes lunches jumping
fishing singing

TRICKY: does would [would you?]
would has the same oul as could and should (week 7).

Say it, write it: Does he help with the dishes?

Week 19 -ed

jumped helped kicked
filled spilled landed
planted melted

TRICKY: walk as
-ed comes a week after -ing here: it has three sounds, so it gets its own week.

Say it, write it: As we walked, I kicked the ball.

Week 20 Two-syllable words

sunset bathtub sandbox
cupcake backpack napkin
basket robot

TRICKY: into again

Say it, write it: The robot fell into the bathtub again.

Week 21 tch and dge

catch match fetch
stretch sketch badge
bridge edge fudge

TRICKY: friend
tch after a short vowel; much, such, rich and which break this rule.

Say it, write it: His friend can catch a fish from the bridge.

Week 22 -old, -ind, -ild, -ost

old cold gold
hold find kind
child wild most

TRICKY: both

Say it, write it: Both of the kids can find the gold.

Week 23 y as a vowel

my by [sit by me] fly
cry sky happy
puppy funny

TRICKY: any many
my and fly end in y; pie and tie (week 32) end in ie.

Say it, write it: My funny puppy has many friends.

Week 24 -le at the end

little apple bubble
puzzle table candle
giggle middle jungle

TRICKY: people

Say it, write it: Some people sat at the little table.



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Weeks 25-36

Heart = learn that part by heart. [Brackets] = say this too, so the word is clear.

Week 25 Review: weeks 18-24

patches judge behind
sticky crying rested
pebble buzzing

TRICKY: does again

Say it, write it: The puppy is crying behind the bench again.

Week 26 Bossy r: ar

car star jar
park farm barn
shark yard dark

TRICKY: pretty

Say it, write it: The farm has a pretty red barn.

Week 27 Bossy r: or, ore

for [a gift for you] fork corn
horn storm short
more store snore

TRICKY: your [your hat]

At the end, /or/ is usually ore (more, store, snore); for is the odd one out.

Say it, write it: Can you get more corn for your pet?

Week 28 Bossy r: er, ir, ur

her after over
bird girl first
shirt turn

TRICKY: mother brother

er, ir and ur sound the same: learn which one each word uses.

Say it, write it: Her brother and mother came first.

Week 29 Vowel teams: ai, ay

rain train paint
snail chain play
stay tray clay

TRICKY: today

ai inside a word (rain, paint), ay at the end (play, clay).

Say it, write it: We can play in the rain today.

Week 30 Vowel teams: ee, ea

green tree sheep
sleep three teeth
eat clean

TRICKY: please been [I have been]

ee and ea sound the same: learn which one each word uses.

Say it, write it: Please clean your teeth before bed.

Week 31 Vowel teams: oa, ow

boat coat goat
soap toast snow
grow slow bowl

TRICKY: know [I know]

oa inside a word (boat, soap); ow at the end or before n or l (snow, bowl).

Say it, write it: Do you know where my coat is?

Week 32 Vowel teams: ie, igh

pie tie light
bright tight flight
might flashlight sunlight

TRICKY: buy [buy at a store]

igh in the -ight words; pie and tie end in ie, but my and fly end in y (week 23); kite and white use i_e (week 13).

Say it, write it: I might buy a pie.

Week 33 Review: weeks 26-32

smart porch winter
chirp spray sweet
float snowman

TRICKY: your [your hat]

know [I know]

For er, ir, ur, ee and ea words, a miss means learn that word, not reteach the pattern.

Say it, write it: I know your snowman is on the porch.

Week 34 oo and ew

moon spoon zoo
book look good
foot grew chew

TRICKY: put

oo and ew both come at the end (zoo, grew): learn which one each word uses.

Say it, write it: Put the spoon by the good book.

Week 35 ou, ow, oi, oy

out round cloud
how down brown
coin boy toy

TRICKY: four [the number 4]

ou inside a word (out, cloud), ow at the end or before n (how, down); oi inside (coin), oy at the end (boy, toy).

Say it, write it: The boy has four round coins.

Week 36 Year-end review

splash rainbow
teacher starfish
goldfish thunder
toothbrush playground

TRICKY: were could

Say it, write it: We could see a rainbow from the playground.



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Spelling test

Print one for every week.

Name _____ Week _____ Pattern _____

Monday pretest check, then fix in a new color fixed

- 1 _____ ☐
- 2 _____ ☐
- 3 _____ ☐
- 4 _____ ☐
- 5 _____ ☐
- 6 _____ ☐
- 7 _____ ☐
- 8 _____ ☐
- 9 _____ ☐
- 10 _____ ☐

Sentence _____

Friday test all 10 words again, same routine fixed

- 1 _____ ☐
- 2 _____ ☐
- 3 _____ ☐
- 4 _____ ☐
- 5 _____ ☐
- 6 _____ ☐
- 7 _____ ☐
- 8 _____ ☐
- 9 _____ ☐
- 10 _____ ☐

Sentence _____

Carry to next week

words missed on Friday

For the grown-up: the weekly routine

- 1 **Monday pretest.** Say the word, say it in a short phrase, say the word again. Your child writes it, checks it against the list and fixes it in a different color. Words right on Monday need no practice this week.
- 2 **Tuesday to Thursday, about 10 minutes.** For each missed word: say it, tap the sounds, write a letter or chunk for each sound, mark the tricky part, check, fix. Then the week's sentence. No copying words out ten times.
- 3 **Friday test.** All 10 words again, same say-phrase-say routine, then the sentence. Check and fix right away.
- 4 **Carry and tick.** Missed words go onto next week's list. For er, ir, ur, ee and ea words, a miss means learn that word, not reteach the pattern. A week is mastered when every word is right on a Friday (or a missed word is right the next Monday). If the same pattern misses two weeks running, slow down instead of adding words.

When every word is right on Friday, tick the week on page 1.



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