# Spelling Strategies

Learning a few simple strategies can help students become better spellers. Teach the strategies one at a time using appropriate words from the spelling lists. List each strategy on a chart as it is introduced. Post the chart as a helpful reminder to students. Review the strategies frequently to help students internalize them.

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| **Say a word correctly.** | Don't leave out or mispronounce sounds.<br>Write the sounds in the correct order. |
| **Think about what the word looks like.** | Think about how the spelling pattern looks.<br>Write it, look at it, decide if it looks correct. |
| **Look for small words in spelling words.** | spin - pin, in<br>cupcake - cup, cake |
| **Look at syllables in spelling words.** | Spell the word one syllable at a time.<br>remember - re•mem•ber |
| **Use rhyming words to help spell a word.** | If you can spell book, you can spell look. |
| **Use rules for adding endings.** | Drop silent e before adding suffix.<br>Double the final consonant before adding suffix. Change the final y to i and add es. |
| **Use knowledge of suffixes and prefixes.** | Think about what the word looks like without the prefix or suffix. Write the word and then add the prefix or suffix. |
| **Think about what the word means.** | Some words sound the same, but have different meanings and are spelled in different ways. Match the spelling with its meaning. |
| **Use outside help.** | Use words posted around the classroom.<br>Use a dictionary.<br>Ask someone for help. |

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