

Year 3 spelling overview 2023-24

Each week children will be tested on a selection of words from the specified list along with other words following the same rule. They will be asked to write some of the words in sentences to also test their punctuation and grammar.

Autumn 1

Week beginning 11.09.23

Rule: Words with the long /ai/ sound spelt with ei

eight	vein
eighth	veil
eighty	beige
weight	sleigh
neighbour	freight

Week beginning 18.09.23

Rule: Words with the long /ai/ sound spelt with ey

hey	whey
they	survey
obey	convey
grey	disobey
prey	purvey

Week beginning 25.09.23

Rule: Words with the long /ai/ sound spelt with ai

straight	waist
campaign	claim
contain	praise
brain	complaint
faint	afraid

Week beginning 02.10.23	
Rule: Words with /ur/ sound spelt with ear	
earth	pearl
early	search
learn	unearth
heard	earl
earn	rehearse

Week beginning 09.10.23	
Rule: Homophones and near homophones	
here	mane
hear	mail
heel	male
heal	knot
main	not

Week beginning 16.10.23	
Rule: Homophones and near homophones	
berry	meat
bury	ball
brake	bawl
break	fair
meet	fare

Autumn 2

Week beginning 30.10.23

Rule: Words with the -ly suffix (no change to root word)

kindly	strongly
quickly	bravely
safely	secretly
rudely	finally
sweetly	usually

Week beginning 06.11.23

Rule: Words with -ly suffix (root word ends in 'y')

happily	greedily
angrily	messily
lazily	wearily
easily	cheekily
busily	clumsily

Week beginning 13.11.23

Rule: Words with -ly suffix (root word ends in 'le')

gently	terribly
simply	possibly
humbly	incredibly
nobly	comfortably
horribly	probably

Week beginning 20.11.23

Rule: Words with -ly suffix (root word ends in 'ic' or 'al')

basically	comically
frantically	actually
dramatically	accidentally
magically	occasionally
tragically	eventually

Week beginning 27.11.23	
Rule: Words with -ly suffix (exceptions to the rules)	
truly	publicly
duly	dryly
wholly	slyly
fully	shyly
daily	coyly

Week beginning 04.12.23	
Rule: Statutory Spelling Words	
believe	continue
appear	arrive
often	women
group	describe
breath	height

Spring 1

Week beginning 08.01.24

Rule: Words with short /i/ sound spelt with 'y'

myth	hymn
gym	system
Egypt	symbol
pyramid	lyric
mystery	typical

Week beginning 15.01.24

Rule: Adding suffixes -er -ed -ing to words (not doubling final consonant)

gardener	offered
gardening	focused
limited	focusing
limiting	shivered
offering	shivering

Week beginning 22.01.24

Rule: Adding suffixes -er -ed -en -ing (doubling final consonant)

forgetting	preferring
forgotten	occurred
beginning	occurring
beginner	forbidden
preferred	committed

Week beginning 29.01.24

Rule: Creating negative meanings using prefix mis-

misspell	misprint
mislead	misuse
mistreat	misplace
misbehave	misheard
mistrust	misread

Week beginning 05.02.24

Rule: Creating negative meanings using prefix dis-

dislike	dishonest
disobey	disallow
discolour	disbelieve
discover	disapprove
disappear	discontinue

Week beginning 12.02.24

Rule: Words with a /k/ sound spelt with 'ch'

scheme	chaos
chorus	stomach
echo	chemistry
character	orchestra
ache	technology

Spring 2

Week beginning 26.02.24

Rule: Homophones and near homophones

grate	plane
great	peace
grown	piece
groan	rain
plain	reign

Week beginning 04.03.24

Rule: Adding prefix bi- (meaning 'two' or 'twice') and adding the prefix re- (meaning 'again' or 'back')

bicycle	redecorate
bilingual	reapply
biannual	repay
binocular	rebuild
reappear	return

Week beginning 11.03.24

Rule: Words ending in /g/ sound spelt 'gue' and the /k/ sound spelt 'que'

league	unique
plague	antique
rogue	mosque
vague	cheque
fatigue	technique

Week beginning 18.03.24

Rule: Words with a /sh/ sound spelt 'ch'

chef	ricochet
chalet	parachute
machine	moustache
brochure	pistachio
crochet	chute

Week beginning 25.03.24	
Rule: Statutory Spelling Words	
address	breathe
busy	strange
business	complete
heart	extreme
fruit	forwards

Summer 1

Week beginning 15.04.24

Rule: Words ending in -ary

library	summary
February	primary
dictionary	secondary
boundary	ordinary
salary	necessary

Week beginning 22.04.24

Rule: Words with a short /u/ sound spelt with 'o'

woman	another
wonder	shovel
month	above
govern	Monday
brother	discover

Week beginning 29.04.24

Rule: Words with a short /u/ sound spelt 'ou'

enough	country
young	courage
touch	rough
double	tough
trouble	cousin

Week beginning 06.05.24

Rule: Word families showing how words are related in form and meaning.

scope	inspect
telescope	spectator
microscope	respect
horoscope	perspective
periscope	spectacles

Week beginning 13.05.24

Rule: Word families showing how words are related in form and meaning.

instruct	unit
structure	union
construction	united
instruction	universe
instructor	university

Week beginning 20.05.24

Rule: Homophones and near homophones

scent	road
sent	steel
vain	steal
vein	waist
rode	waste

Summer 2

Week beginning 03.06.24

Rule: Words ending in suffix -al

natural	national
occasional	capital
actual	vocal
accidental	sensational
medical	personal

Week beginning 10.06.24

Rule: Words ending with /zhuh/ sound spelt 'sure'

treasure	leisure
measure	exposure
pleasure	pressure
enclosure	composure
closure	fissure

Week beginning 17.06.24

Rule: Words ending with /chuh/ sound spelt 'ture'

creature	culture
picture	moisture
nature	future
furniture	gesture
capture	structure

Week beginning 24.06.24

Rule: Words ending with /chuh/ sound spelt 'ture'

lecture	puncture
literature	sculpture
fracture	signature
miniature	temperature
mixture	texture

Week beginning 01.07.24	
Rule: Silent letters	
island	knock
answer	thumb
write	doubt
wrapper	half
knife	calm

Week beginning 08.06.24	
Rule: Silent letters	
build	honest
guide	whirl
guard	gnome
wheat	gnaw
whale	surprise