5 tips to learn tricky spellings
If you’re dyslexic, it can feel like your spellings have a mind of their own.

Here are 5 tips to teach your brain to remember them:
Can you make a silly sentence?

A mnemonic is a silly sentence, where the first letter of every word matches the letters of the tricky spelling. Imagining, saying and hearing these silly sentences help our dyslexic brains to remember tricky spellings right.

*e.g* to spell ‘competition’:
**cats only meet pandas every tuesday**
**if they ice-skate on neptune**

Ask your child to make up their own. One mnemonic can unlock lots of words that follow the same pattern.

*e.g.*

**Oh U Lucky Duck**

*can help to spell lots of words with the same ending,*

*like could, would and should.*
Can you spell words in a tray of shaving foam, sand or glitter?

A multisensory approach works brilliantly for dyslexic brains. Getting ‘hands on’ helps children learn better and memorise the word effectively. Even just using your fingers to spell a word in the air can be helpful.
Can you make the word in play doh?

Lots of children who are Made By Dyslexia are born to ‘make’. So getting hands on can help us engage with the spellings we’re shaping.
Can you make up a silly song? Or a dance?

For children who learn through movement and music, singing and dancing is a great way to teach our dyslexic brains the rules our working memory struggles to hold on to.
Make a word jigsaw.

If you are spelling words with the same ending, try writing each one on a piece of card. Then cut the word in half. Mix them up. Now put them back together again.

*e.g.*

- *sent* → *tent*
- *rent* → *prevent*
- *cons* → *rent*
Find out more:

Watch:
Our Literacy training video (in 6 mins flat)
https://education.microsoft.com/en-us/course/4acb190d/0

Read:
More spelling strategies on Nessy.
https://www.nessy.com/uk/blog/4-spelling-strategies/