

Using Natural Speller

Below is a sample weekly lesson using the five steps listed on pages 1 -3 which are also on the site as sample pages.

GRADE 3

It is not necessary to have the same number of words each week. Assign from 10 – 15 words unless the student has great difficulty with long term retention. In that case assign less than ten, avoiding two different sounds that are spelled the same. (Example: don't give lists with *or* saying /or/ and /er/.) Add to word lists by having students add endings and prefixes to assigned words. Also use additional words from "Words by Category" as needed. (Some are listed here for convenience.)

1. Assign words from a list.

silent gh

sigh
high
flight
tight
light
slight
night
bright
right
fight
sight
might
fright

2. Have the student use the "How To Study a Word" method found on page 4 of the Natural Speller.

3. Require neat handwriting on the assignments. Poor or careless penmanship can cause confusion and misspelled words.

4. Assign activities.

Choose four activities from those listed at the end of the graded word lists or the activities section on pages 42-47 and assign one per day Monday through Thursday. Teacher preparation time can be kept to a minimum by listing four activities in the front of the student's spelling notebook along with the prefixes and suffixes suggested for practice below the word list. Adding prefixes and suffixes should always be one of the four activities. These same four activities can then be used week after week. As time allows, the teacher can adjust the list, or the student can be allowed to look through the books to choose an alternative for the day.

Example:

Day 1 – Write each word three times.

Day 2 – Add prefixes and suffixes to make real words.

3rd grade suffixes—s, or es, ful, est, er, ed, ing, ly, y.

Prefixes: un, re

sigh, sighs, sighing – the remaining suffixes and prefixes do not make real words.

high, highest, higher, highly – the remaining suffixes and prefixes do not make real words.

light, lights, lightest, lighter, lighting, lightly, relight – the remaining suffixes and prefix do not make real words.

Day 3 – Alphabetize the words.

Day 4 – Write each word in a sentence.

- 5. Test the child on Friday.** Dictate entire sentences. Keep a list of misspelled words from the test (as well as any from compositions) to add to future lists for additional practice.