

Year 3 and 4 National Curriculum Spellings

accident(ally)	actual(ly)	address	answer	appear
arrive	busy/business	believe	bicycle	breath
breathe	build calendar	caught	centre	century
certain	circle	complete	consider	continue
decide	describe	different	difficult	disappear
early	earth	eight/eighth	enough	exercise
experience	experiment	extreme	famous	favourite
February	forward(s)	fruit	grammar	group
guard	guide	heard	heart	height
history	imagine	increase	important	interest
island	knowledge	learn	length	library
material	medicine	mention	minute	natural
naughty	notice	occasion(ally)	often	opposite
ordinary	particular	peculiar	perhaps	popular
position	possess(ion)	possible	potatoes	pressure
probably	promise	purpose	quarter	question
recent	regular	reign	remember	sentence
separate	special	straight	strange	strength
suppose	surprise	though/although	therefore	thought
through	various	woman/women	weight	

Spelling pattern	Rules for use	Example words
Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable	If the last syllable of a word is stressed and ends with one consonant letter which has just one vowel letter before it, the final consonant letter is doubled. The consonant letter is not doubled if the syllable is unstressed.	forgetting, forgotten, beginning, beginner, prefer, preferred gardening, gardener, limited, limiting, limitation
The 'i' sound spelt y other than at the end of the word		myth, gym, Egypt, pyramid, mystery
The 'u' sound spelt ou		Young, touch, double, trouble, country
Prefixes	Like un-, the prefixes –dis and -mis have negative meanings. The prefix in- can mean both not and in or into. In the words	disappoint, disobey, disagree, misbehave, misspell, mislead inactive, incorrect

	<p>given here it means not.</p> <p>Before a root word starting with 'l', in- becomes il-</p> <p>Before a root word starting with 'm' or 'p', in- becomes im-</p> <p>Before a root word starting with 'r', in- becomes ir-</p> <p>Re- means again or back</p> <p>Sub- means under</p> <p>Inter- means between or among</p> <p>Super- means above</p> <p>Anti- means against</p> <p>Auto- means self or own</p>	<p>illegal, illegible</p> <p>immature, immortal, impossible, impatient, imperfect</p> <p>irregular, irrelevant, irresponsible</p> <p>redo, refresh, reappear, redecorate, return</p> <p>subdivide, subheading, submarine, submerge</p> <p>interact, intercity, international, interrelated</p> <p>supermarket, superman, superstar</p> <p>antiseptic, anticlockwise, antisocial</p> <p>autobiography, autograph</p>
The suffix -tation	Added to verbs to form nouns.	Information, adoration, sensation, preparation, admiration
The suffix -ly	<p>Added to an adjective to form an adverb. Starts with a consonant letter so is added straight onto most root words.</p> <p>If the root word ends in -y with a consonant letter before it, the y is changed to i, but only if the root word has more than one syllable.</p> <p>If the root word ends in -le, the -le is changed to -ly.</p> <p>If the root word ends in -ic, -ally is added. <i>Except in publicly.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Exceptions:</p>	<p>Sadly, completely, usually, finally, comically</p> <p>happily, angrily</p> <p>gently, simply, humbly, nobly</p> <p>basically, frantically, dramatically</p> <p>truly, duly, wholly</p>
-sure endings		measure, treasure, pleasure, enclosure
-ture endings	Check that the word is not a	Creature, furniture, picture, nature,

	root word ending with an –er suffix e.g. teacher, catcher, richer, stretcher.	adventure
-sion endings		division, invasion, confusion, decision, collision, television
The suffix -ous	<p>Sometimes there is no obvious root word.</p> <p>-our is changed to –or.</p> <p>Keep the ‘e’ for words ending in –ge.</p> <p>If there is an ‘ee’ sound before the –ous, it is usually spelt ‘i’, but a few words have ‘e’.</p>	<p>poisonous, dangerous, famous, mountainous</p> <p>tremendous, enormous, jealous</p> <p>humorous, glamorous, vigorous</p> <p>courageous, outrageous</p> <p>serious, obvious, curious</p> <p>hideous, spontaneous, courteous</p>
Endings spelt –tion, -sion, -ssion or -cian	<p>-tion is the most common spelling. It is used if the root word ends in –t or –te.</p> <p>-ssion is used if the root word ends in –ss or –mit.</p> <p>-sion is used if the root word ends in –d or –se. <i>Except attention, intention</i></p> <p>-cian is used if the root word ends in –c or –cs.</p>	<p>invention, injection, action, hesitation, completion</p> <p>expression, confession, discussion, permission, admission</p> <p>expansion, extension, comprehension, tension</p> <p>musician, electrician, magician, politician, mathematician</p>
Words with the ‘k’ sound spelt ch	<i>Greek origin</i>	scheme, chorus, echo, chemist, character
Words with the ‘sh’ sound spelt ch	<i>Mostly French origin</i>	chef, brochure, chalet, machine
Words with the ‘g’ sound spelt gue	<i>French origin</i>	league, tongue
Words with the ‘k’ sound spelt que	<i>French origin</i>	antique, unique
Words with the ‘s’ sound spelt sc	<i>Latin origin</i>	science, scene, fascinate, crescent
Words with the ‘ai’ sound spelt ei, eigh or ey		vein, weigh, eight, neighbour, they, obey
Possessive	The apostrophe is placed after	girls’, boys’, babies’, children’s,

apostrophe with plural words	the plural form of the word.	men's, mice's
Homophones and near homophones		accept/except, affect/effect, ball/bawl, berry/bury, break/brake, fair/fare, grate/great, grown/groan, here/hear, heel/heal/he'll, knot/not, mail/male, main/mane, meet/meat, meddle/medal, missed/mist, peace/piece, plain/plane, rain/rein/reign, scene/seen, weather/whether, whose/who's