

Rainbow Words and Challenge Words

The word lists outlined within this document correspond with the [National Curriculum](#) common exception words and word lists that are suggested for each year group to learn. We recommend that these words are practised throughout the year alongside other spelling lists as they tend to be tricky or unusual spellings.

Practising Spelling Shed Words in KS2:

To support the learning of the 'Challenge Words' either use the Spelling Shed App/Website and select 'More Lists' via the game page and search for 'Challenge Words' linked to the correct year group. Alternatively, use the word lists below and practise using pencil and paper. Click [here](#) for more ideas to help you with this

(NOTE: This document is password protected- please refer to your spelling shed email /contact your class teacher or school office for access).

Year 1

In EYFS and KS1, children will learn using the Anima Phonics scheme. Within this, common exception words are known as Rainbow Words. Rainbow Words are introduced systematically throughout the programme.

When teaching, children's attention is drawn to the 'tricky' part of the word that does not fit in with what has been taught so far. This enables children to easily identify the grapheme(s) that make the word an exception word.

At this point, the focus will be on reading the words, but, as the children progress, this will link to the spellings too.

EYFS and Year 1 Rainbow Words:

Phase 2 and 3	Phase 4	Phase 5a:	Phase 5b	Phase 5c	Phase 6a:
the to I is me was my of	go no into put he she you they we be all	their are her his said like have do one so some	when where why what who people children does live word sentence	friend your today says were there by here has love come	because once ask house school push pull full our door floor poor climb

Year 2- Rainbow Words

Phase 6b:	Phase 6c:	Phase 6d:
old cold gold told hold every everybody even great break steak pretty beautiful after fast last past pass grass class	plant path bath hour move prove improve sure sugar eye could would should whole any many busy	earth water again half Mrs Mr Christmas parents woman women thought fruit

Year 3- Challenge Words

<u>Term One</u>	<u>Term Two</u>	<u>Term Three</u>
actual answer bicycle circle earth enough fruit island often popular build describe imagine library natural ordinary promise recent suppose weight	centre decide disappear early heart learn minute notice regular therefore truly duly publicly daily slyly shyly fully wholly coyly happily	address arrive certain experience history mention occasionally probably reign sentence

Year 4- Challenge Words

<u>Term One</u>	<u>Term Two</u>	<u>Term Three</u>
calendar appear believe grammar increase interest opposite straight strength women complete continue experiment famous favourite February naughty material knowledge remember	breath business caught different exercise extreme medicine possession although thought group height particular potatoes separate surprise through various though woman	accident actually busy eighth forward forwards guide possess occasion Wednesday

Year 5- Challenge Words

<u>Term One</u>	<u>Term Two</u>	<u>Term Three</u>
appreciate cemetery conscious convenience environment immediately language sufficient thorough vegetable	amateur ancient awkward criticise excellent foreign pronunciation symbol yacht equipment	achieve apparent bargain bruise community mischievous muscle necessary vehicle system
accommodate available controversy dictionary marvellous opportunity secretary sincerely suggest twelfth	accompany communicate conscience desperate disastrous interfere nuisance queue restaurant rhythm	

Year 6- Challenge Words

<u>List 1</u>	<u>List 2</u>	<u>List 3</u>
muscle prejudice available determined rhyme identity accommodate suggest competition existence	achieve bargain controversy disastrous foreign interfere nuisance programme secretary temperature	ancient cemetery criticise equipped government leisure opportunity recognise sincerely variety
<u>List 4</u>	<u>List 5</u>	<u>List 6</u>
accompany average conscience develop explanation immediately necessary privilege rhythm symbol	aggressive bruise convenience embarrass forty interrupt occupy pronunciation shoulder thorough	apparent committee curiosity guarantee lightning parliament recommend soldier vegetable especially
<u>List 7</u>	<u>List 8</u>	<u>List 9</u>
according awkward conscious dictionary familiar individual neighbour profession sacrifice system	amateur category correspond environment frequently language occur queue signature twelfth	appreciate communicate definite exaggerate harass marvellous persuade relevant stomach vehicle
<u>List 10</u>		
attached community desperate excellent hindrance mischievous physical restaurant sufficient yacht		

NOTE: Year 6 purposely includes repetition of challenge words previously learnt.