

## Year 2 Spelling

The /dʒ/ sound spelt as ge and dge at the end of words, and sometimes spelt as g elsewhere in words before e, i and y

The /s/ sound spelt c before e, i and y

The /n/ sound spelt kn and (less often) gn at the beginning of words

The /r/ sound spelt wr at the beginning of words

The /l/ or /əl/ sound spelt -le at the end of words

The letter j is never used for the /dʒ/ sound at the end of English words. At the end of a word, the /dʒ/ sound is spelt **-dge** straight after the /æ/, /ɛ/, /ɪ/, /ɒ/, /ɒ/ and /ʊ/ sounds (sometimes called 'short' vowels). After all other sounds, whether vowels or consonants, the /dʒ/ sound is spelt as **-ge** at the end of a word. In other positions in words, the /dʒ/ sound is often (but not always) spelt as g before e, i, and y. The /dʒ/ sound is always spelt as j before a, o and u.

The 'k' and 'g' at the beginning of these words was sounded hundreds of years ago.

This spelling probably also reflects an old pronunciation.

The **-le** spelling is the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words.

badge, edge, bridge, dodge, fudge

age, huge, change, charge, bulge, village

gem, giant, magic, giraffe, energy jacket, jar, jog, join, adjust

race, ice, cell, city, fancy

knock, know, knee, gnat, gnaw

write, written, wrote, wrong, wrap

table, apple, bottle, little, middle

camel, tunnel, squirrel, travel, towel, tinsel

metal, pedal, capital, hospital, animal

pencil, fossil, nostril

cry, fly, dry, try, reply, July

flies, tries, replies, copies, babies, carries

copied, copier, happier, happiest, cried, replied ...**but** copying, crying, replying

Adding the endings -ing, -ed, -er, -est and -y to words ending in -e with a consonant before it

Adding -ing, -ed, -er, -est and -y to words of one syllable ending in a single consonant letter after a single vowel letter

The /ɔ:/ sound spelt a before l and ll

The /ʌ/ sound spelt o

The **-e** at the end of the root word is dropped before **-ing, -ed, -er, -est, -y** or any other suffix beginning with a vowel letter is added. **Exception: being.**

The last consonant letter of the root word is doubled to keep the /æ/, /ɛ/, /ɪ/, /ɒ/ and /ʌ/ sound (i.e. to keep the vowel 'short'). **Exception: The letter 'x' is never doubled: mixing, mixed, boxer, sixes.**

The /ɔ:/ sound ('or') is usually spelt as **a** before **l** and **ll**.

hiking, hiked, hiker, nicer, nicest, shiny

patting, patted, humming, hummed, dropping, dropped, sadder, saddest, fatter, fattest, runner, runny

all, ball, call, walk, talk, always

other, mother, brother, nothing, Monday

Common exception words

Some words are exceptions in some accents but not in others - e.g. *past, last, fast, path* and *bath* are not exceptions in accents where the **a** in these words is pronounced /æ/, as in *cat*. *Great, break* and *steak* are the only common words where the /eɪ/ sound is spelt **ea**.

door, floor, poor, because, find, kind, mind, behind, child, children\*, wild, climb, most, only, both, old, cold, gold, hold, told, every, everybody, even, great, break, steak, pretty, beautiful, after, fast, last, past, father, class, grass, pass, plant, path, bath, hour, move, prove, improve, sure, sugar, eye, could, should, would, who, whole, any, many, clothes, busy, people, water, again, half, money, Mr, Mrs, parents, Christmas - and/or others according to programme used. **Note:** 'children' is not an exception to what has been taught so far but is included because of its relationship with 'child'.

The /l/ or /əl/ sound spelt -el at the end of words

The /l/ or /əl/ sound spelt -al at the end of words

Words ending -il

The /aɪ/ sound spelt -y at the end of words

Adding -es to nouns and verbs ending in -y

Adding -ed, -ing, -er and -est to a root word ending in -y with a consonant before it

The **-el** spelling is much less common than **-le**. The **-el** spelling is used after **m, n, r, s, v, w** and more often than not after **s**.

Not many nouns end in **-al**, but many adjectives do.

There are not many of these words.

This is by far the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words.

The **y** is changed to **i** before **-es** is added.

The **y** is changed to **i** before **-ed, -er** and **-est** are added, but not before **-ing** as this would result in **ii**. The only ordinary words with **ii** are *skiing* and *taxiing*.

metal, pedal, capital, hospital, animal

pencil, fossil, nostril

cry, fly, dry, try, reply, July

flies, tries, replies, copies, babies, carries

copied, copier, happier, happiest, cried, replied ...**but** copying, crying, replying

The /i:/ sound spelt -ey

The /ɒ/ sound spelt a after w and qu

The /ɜ:/ sound spelt or after w

The /ɔ:/ sound spelt ar after w

The /ʒ/ sound spelt s

The suffixes -ment, -ness, -ful, -less and -ly

Contractions

The possessive apostrophe (singular nouns)

Words ending in -tion

Homophones and near-homophones

The plural of these words is formed by the addition of **-s** (*donkeys, monkeys, etc.*).

**a** is the most common spelling for the /ɒ/ ('hot') sound after **w** and **qu**.

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If a suffix starts with a consonant letter, it is added straight on to most root words without any change to the last letter of those words. **Exceptions:** (1) *argument* (2) root words ending in **-y** with a consonant before it but only if the root word has more than one syllable.

In contractions, the apostrophe shows where a letter or letters would be if the words were written in full (e.g. *can't - cannot*). *It's* means *it is* (e.g. *It's* raining) or sometimes *it has* (e.g. *It's* been raining), but *it's* is never used for the possessive.

key, donkey, monkey, chimney, valley

want, watch, wander, quantity, squash

word, work, worm, world, worth

war, warm, towards

television, treasure, usual

enjoyment, sadness, careful, playful, hopeless, plainness (plain + ness), badly

merriment, happiness, plentiful, penniless, happily

can't, didn't, hasn't, couldn't, it's, I'll

Megan's, Ravi's, the girl's, the child's, the man's

station, fiction, motion, national, section

there/their/they're, here/hear, quite/quiet, see/sea, bare/bear, one/won, sun/son, to/too/two, be/bee, blue/blew, night/knight