



CHIMP SPELLING STRATEGY – For Parents

The CHIMP way to memorize spelling

The CHIMP strategy is a multi-sensory approach to assist children with storing spelling words into their long-term memory.

CH.I.M.P is: **Ch**unk, **I**nvestigate, **M**emory screen and **P**practice.

CH: is for **CHUNKS**

Listen

- Write the word correctly in lowercase letters
- Say the word aloud, listen and see the syllables (or single sounds for short words)

i.e. one syllable word - with: w i th
more than one syllable - interesting: in ter est ing

Write

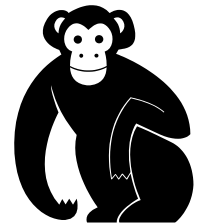
- Break up the word leaving spaces between chunks
 - The written chunks should show the chunks of sound
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I: is for **INVESTIGATE**

- Analyze the word, especially the structure, and decide how to remember it
- Use colors to underline and highlight

Ways to INVESTIGATE:

- Smaller words within the word
- Spelling parts: letter patterns er, ing, th
- Other known words that are spelled the same
- The hardest part: color or draw around the hardest part to spell
- Draw a picture to help remember different parts of the word
- Write what it means
- Write what part of speech it is (i.e. verb)



M: is for **MEMORY SCREEN**

- **Put image in visual memory** – hold up written word to forehead height and look up at it. After a few seconds of looking put it down
 - **Create a memory screen** – Close your eyes, imagine a TV or movie screen
 - **Put the word on the screen** – Put the chunks on your screen. Say the words as you have chunked them.
 - **Recall the word aloud** – Look at the word, spell it forwards, then backwards
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P: is for **PRACTICE**

- **Write the word correctly and use it in context-** saying the word aloud, chunking, as you write without looking at the prewritten word.