

Fast Words - Essential Words for Spelling and Writing



FAST WORDS is the spelling and word study programme we have developed at Waitākiri. The goal is for children to read and write words they use a lot (called high frequency words) quickly and automatically, almost without having to think.

This means children do not need to slow down when they meet the FAST WORDS in their reading and writing. Instead they can concentrate on working out more difficult words.

Another step is to add endings s, ing, ed and er to FAST WORDS e.g. play, plays, playing, player

Consonant clusters (e.g. br, st, pl) and digraphs (sh, th, ch) are taught as children learn to generate words from FAST WORDS e.g. use 'at' to make 'that, flat, chat, chatting'

Practicing FAST WORDS at home

It would be beneficial for your child to practice FAST WORDS regularly at home. We suggest you spend 5 minutes each day writing the words on this card. Have fun trying these ideas:

- Rainbow writing - write the FAST WORD in one colour, write over the top in a different colour, then repeat with 1 or two other colours
- Write the words really big, then write them tiny
- Use magnetic letters on the fridge
- Write them in chalk on the path

MY FAST WORDS:

Card 1: I am learning to read and write these words:

I	a	see	the	at
am	we	Mum	go	Dad
is	look	going	can	to

Card 2: I am learning to read and write these words:

in	for	come	on	here
like	this	up	my	it
and	was	said	are	went

Card 3: I am learning to read and write these words and use what I know to make new words, eg got, lot, shot, spot

had	of	by	but	he
then	so	they	day	you
your	be	him	no	saw
she	got	big	has	get
all				

Card 4: I am learning to read and write these words and use what I know to make new words, eg us, bus, bust, busted, trust

when	did	his	have	very
if	little	ran	her	one
two	three	four	us	from
five	us	from	five	an
good	not	that	there	

Card 5: I am learning to read and write these words and use what I know to make new words, eg out, about, shout, shouted, shouting, outside

house	over	school	them	time
well	do	made	will	out
into	put	six	seven	eight
nine	ten	started	old	away

Card 6: I am learning to read and write these words and use what I know to make new words, eg night, bright, fright, frighten, delight, delightful

about	our	were	just	back
because	came	home	some	down
with	night	blue	black	white
green	brown	orange	pink	yellow
as	girl	after		

Card 7: I am learning to read and write these words and use what I know to make new words, eg again, plain, explain, brain, sprain, sprained

around	again	could	next	now
off	other	people	their	would
once	who	family	thing	food
first	only	what	want	friend
Waitākiri	New Zealand	Christchurch	_____	My Surname

Essential Lists 5-7 & Commonly Misspelt Words:

Essential List 5 (50 Words 5% of Writing)

am	door	last	once	through
another	everyone	left	play	told
away	family	long	really	too
bed	five	looked	room	walked
been	found	made	something	want
before	friend	man	still	way
best	fund	more	thing	where
brother	heard	morning	think	which
called	here	name	thought	who
car	know	never	three	year

Essential List 6 (70 Words 5% of Writing)

also	cool	eyes	head	jump
always	dark	fell	hit	knew
asked	decided	felt	how	later
black	dog	find	inside	life
boy	eat	four	Its	live
bus	end	gave	It's	lot
cat	even	getting	I'll	lunch
coming	every	great	I'm	make
minutes	place	sister	top	water
much	ride	suddenly	tree	why
nice	right	take	turned	window
opened	run	tell	until	woke
outside	say	ten	wanted	yes

Essential List 7 (60 Words; 3% of Writing)

any	each	ground	money	soon
baby	ever	guard	mother	stay
bad	everything	hand	myself	stop
ball	face	happened	new	swimming
being	fast	happy	parents	tea
bit	father	help	picked	than
boat	few	hole	playing	tried
bought	finally	hot	presents	under
camp	finished	hour	road	wait
dead	game	let	side	won
died	girl	look	small	work
doing	gone	many	sometimes	world

Commonly Misspelt Words

The 55 words in this section are among the most difficult to spell correctly. As they are often used in writing, it is important that you learn to spell each one.

allowed	disappeared	holidays	stopped	awhile
doesn't	hopped	straight	believe	dollars
hospital	they're	breakfast	don't	instead
threw	brought	everybody	lightning	tomorrow
cannon	everyday	luckily	video	can't
everywhere	nearly	wasn't	caught	excited
police	watch	centre	favourite	present
weren't	chocolate	field	probably	we're
clothes	friends	quiet	whole	couldn't
front	scared	won't	didn't	grabbed
second	you're	different	having	someone