

Unit 1: The or sound spelt a before I and II

President Alpha Welcome, Earthlings! You are about to enter the Spelling Zone.

Our Star Speller for today is... Gamma!

Gamma Hi – Gamma here!

I've just been practising my skills with a zone ball in the hall, but then I heard Zeta call me to tell me it was time for today's Spelling Zone! I came at once – it's always so exciting to talk to you about a new spelling idea.

Did you notice that I used several words with the *or* sound spelt **a** before I and II?

Let's play My turn/Your turn to say these words. I will say the words first, then you say them.

call

fall

hall

wall

sm**a**ll

also

almost

always

already

Jumping Jupiter! I think a Weird Word Warning is on its way. Look out! Here it comes...

Say these words after me where the **or** sound is spelt with the letter **a** before **I**.

talk

walk

ch**al**k

st**al**k



Did you notice that the letter I is silent? We don't say:

talk

walk

chalk

st**a**lk

Very weird!

I've jumbled up some of the words we've been looking at in this box. Can you spot any rhyming words?

[Pause video]

That's right – 'fall', 'small', 'call' and 'ball' rhyme. And 'talk', 'stalk' and 'walk' rhyme. Well done!

Well, that's all from me for now! Goodbye!

President Alpha



Unit 2: Soft c

President Alpha Welcome, Earthlings! You are about to enter the Spelling Zone.

Our Star Speller for today is... Mu!

Mu Hi – Mu here!

I've just got back from some time and space travelling. I ended up in Britain more than 900 years ago! To my surprise, Britain had been invaded by French soldiers. The English language was in a bit of a muddle because they were changing some English spellings to match their French. What a cheek!

I found out that in French, the letter **c** made the **s** sound.

We still use the French **c** to make the **s** sound in lots of our English words today. We call it 'soft **c**'.

Let's look at the s sound box. Say the sounds after me.

S

s

SS

se

С

Now let's look at words with the **s** sound spelt **c**.

Let's play My turn/Your turn to say these words. I'll say them first, then you say them.

city

cell

exer**c**ise

mi**c**e

icy

cycle

fan**c**y



Hmm. How do we know when **c** is soft as in mi**c**e and when it is hard as in **c**ut? Well, we have to work hard to learn these words, but it is helpful to know that when **c** comes just before **i**, **y** or **e** it usually makes the **s** sound.

city
cell
exercise
mice
icy
cycle
notice

police

Ah, a homophone alert is on its way.

Homophones are words that sound the same but have different spellings and meanings.

Here's a sentence I made up with the homophones 'sell' and 'cell'.

When the robber tried to **sell** the stolen bike, he was caught and put in a prison **cell**.

Well, time for me to go now. Keep a look out for homophones and 'soft **c**' words until I see you next week – you'll probably start to **notice** them all around you! Keep spelling.

President Alpha



Unit 3: Adding the suffix -y

President Alpha Welcome, Earthlings! You are about to enter the Spelling Zone.

Our Star Speller for today is... Zeta!

Zeta Hi – welcome back! It's Zeta here.

I'm feeling a bit disappointed today. It was meant to be the final of the outdoor intergalactic dancing competition, but the weather is very wet and **foggy**. The stage is too slippery to use, and the space turf is very **muddy** and **boggy**. Not safe to dance on! Still, I'm feeling much better now because it gave me an idea for today's Spelling Zone!

First, I have a special word to share with you today, Earthlings. My word is 'suffix'. You might already know this word but here's a reminder of what a suffix is. Let's visit the Explanation Station!

Suffix – letters that are added to the end of a root word.

rain + ing raining rain + ed rained rain + y rainy

-ing, -ed and -y are all suffixes.

Very useful. Thank you, Explanation Station.

Today, we are going to look at adding the suffix **-y**.

Now I have some rhyming root words to show you.

fog bog run fun

Let's play My turn/Your turn – repeat them after me. Ready? Go!

fog bog run fun

Well done. Did you notice that all the words ended in a short vowel sound + a consonant? Tell your partner what the final consonants are in each word.

[Pause video]



Check if you had the correct answer: g g n n

Give yourselves a 'thumbs up' if you got them all right.

If we add the suffix **-y** to these words, we can say:

Today, it's **foggy** and the ground is **boggy**.

Your turn!

This butter is **runny** and it looks a bit **funny**.

Your turn!

When we add the suffix **-y** we might need to change the root word. Let's take a look.

Let's watch what happens to words when we add the suffix -y.

```
fog foggy
bog boggy
run runny
fun funny
```

What happened to the final consonant when we added the suffix **-y**? Turn to your partner.

[Pause video]

For these words, we had to double the consonant before adding -y.

```
chat + y chatty
run + y runny
```

Turn to your partner and say:

Double the consonant before adding -y.

Go!



Here are some more words ending in a short vowel sound + a consonant. Let's double the consonant before adding -y.

root word	double the consonant
	before adding -y
spot	spo tty
sun	su nny
chat	cha tty
flop	floppy

That's all for today. Until next time – keep spelling!

President Alpha



Unit 4: Adding the suffix **-y** (2)

President Alpha Welcome, Earthlings! You are about to enter the Spelling Zone.

Our Star Speller for today is... Mu!

Mu Hello! It's Mu here.

I've been looking in the Earth Museum today at all the animals you have on Earth. Some of them are very strange looking creatures! I saw pictures of a weird, **spiky** thing called a hedgehog; a giant, **slimy** snail and a very **lazy** animal called a sloth. I'm sure we don't have anything like them here on the Spelling planet! Looking at the animals gave me an idea for today's Spelling Zone.

First, can you remember what a suffix is? Turn to your partner.

[Pause video]

Let's re-visit the Explanation Station to check if you were right.

Suffix – letters that are added to the end of a root word.

sulk + ing sulking sulk + ed sulked sulk + y sulky

-ing, -ed and -y are all suffixes.

Thank you and goodbye, Explanation Station.

Today, we are going to look at adding the suffix **-y** again.

Time for some rhyming root words.

whine shine breeze cheese laze craze

Let's play My turn/Your turn to say them. Ready? Go!

whine shine breeze cheese laze craze



Well done. Did you notice that they all end in e?

If we add the suffix **-y** to these words, we can say:

My brother's whiny because his boots aren't shiny!

Your turn!

Or:

The weather is **breezy** but this scarf looks **cheesy**!

Your turn!

Or:

I'm feeling lazy and it's driving mum crazy!

Your turn!

When we add the suffix **-y**, we might need to change the root word. Let's take a look.

Here are the root words again.

whine shine breeze cheese laze craze

Let's watch what happens to these words when we add the suffix **-y**.

whine whiny
shine shiny
breeze breezy
cheese cheesy
laze lazy
craze crazy

What happened to the **e** when we added the suffix **-y**? Turn to your partner.

[Pause video]

Yes. For these words, we had to drop the **e** before adding **-y**.

```
shine shine + y shiny
breeze breeze + y breezy
```



Turn to your partner and say:

Drop the **e** before adding **-y**.

Go!

Here are some more words ending in **e**. Let's drop the **e** before adding **-y**.

root word	drop the e before	
	adding -y	
wheeze	wheez y	
bone	bon y	
spike	spik y	
slime	slim y	

Well, that's all for today. See you next time!

President Alpha



Unit 5: Adding the suffix -ly

President Alpha Welcome, Earthlings! You are about to enter the Spelling Zone.

Our Star Speller for today is... Gamma!

Gamma Jumping Jupiter! I nearly missed the Spelling Zone shuttle today back from

zoneball. Good job it was moving **slowly** and I could catch up **quickly**. I

could do with sitting **quietly** for a moment, but we must get on!

Goodness me! I have just used four words ending in the suffix -ly, ly. They

were:

near**ly**

slowly

quickly

quiet**ly**

Did you know it is very easy to make an adverb by adding the suffix **-ly** to an adjective?

near + ly nearly

slow + ly slowly

quick + ly quickly

quiet + ly quietly

We don't usually have to swap, double or drop any letters when we add the suffix **-ly**.

root word	keep root word the	
	same and add -ly	
slow	slow ly	
quiet	quiet ly	
glad	glad ly	
sad	sad ly	

Let's play My turn/Your turn to say the root, suffix and then the new word.

slow + ly slowly

quiet + ly quietly

glad + ly gladly

sad + ly sadly



Jumping Jupiter, I nearly forgot! I have a Weird Word Warning for you. Here it is:

When an adjective ends in **y**, we have to swap the **y** for an **i** before adding **-ly**. Like this:

happy happily speedy speedily easy easily

Well, that's all for today. Goodbye!

President Alpha



Unit 6: The *n* sound spelt **kn** and **gn**

President Alpha Welcome, Earthlings! You are about to enter the Spelling Zone.

Our Star Speller for today is... Mu!

Mu Greetings, Star Spellers. It's Mu here.

I was rummaging around the Spelling Zone Earth museum when I came across an ancient Earthling book. It had pictures of knights in shining armour. I decided to travel back in time to see if I could meet one of these strange beings. It was so interesting that I recorded some of my adventure. Would

you like to see it? OK then, here goes:

Princess All I do is knit, knit, knit. Oh! Someone's knocking on my door!

Knight So many steps! My poor knees.

Princess (impressed) Dear Knight! I know not how you made it up here!

Knight I knew I had to kneel before you dear Princess and ask you to be my wife.

Princess But kneeling will hurt your poor knees! Here – kneel on my knitting!

Knight Let us tie the knot and live happily ever after!

Princess (swooning) Oh Knight ... the sharpest knife could never cut the knot that ties us together!

Mu Actually, there was something very odd about the way people spoke all those

years ago. Lots of the words in my recording have a silent letter **k** in them.

Here they are:

knit knock knight knees know knew kneel knot

knife

But those ancient Earthlings pronounced the **k**! Quite ridiculous. So this is

what I actually heard:

Princess All I do is **k**nit, **k**nit, **k**nit. Oh! Someone's **k**nocking on my door!

Knight So many steps! My poor **k**nees.

Princess (impressed) Dear **K**night! I **k**now not how you made it up here!

Knight I knew I had to kneel before you dear Princess and ask you to be my wife.

Princess But kneeling will hurt your poor knees! Here – kneel on my knitting!

Knight Let us tie the **k**not and live happily ever after!

Princess (swooning) Oh **K**night ... the sharpest **k**nife could never cut the **k**not that ties us together!



Mu As I said – quite ridiculous!

Let's look at the *n* sound box. Say all the sounds in the sound box.

n

n

nn

kn

Let's check out more words with the *n* sound spelt **kn**.

Let's play My turn/Your turn to say these words.

knew know

knot knight

knit kneel

knee knock

knead knuckle

I have a handy spelling tip for these words. Try saying them to yourself as if you are an ancient Earthling! That will help you to remember to spell the *n* sound with **kn**.

knew know knot knight knit kneel knee knock knead knuckle

Ah, a homophone alert!

knew / new

know / no

knot / not

knight / night

I love these words that sound the same but have different spellings and meanings. After watching this video, help your teacher to make up some sentences using these homophones.

Well, that's all for today. I hope you feel you **know** a lot about silent **k**, now! Bye!

President Alpha



Unit 7: The igh sound spelt y

President Alpha Welcome, Earthlings! You are about to enter the Spelling Zone.

Our Star Speller for today is... Zeta!

Zeta Hello there! Zeta here.

I love the letter **y**. It can make so many different sounds. Today's words have the letter **y** making the *igh* sound.

Let's look at the *igh* sound box. Say all the sounds in the sound box.

igh igh i-e i y

Let's check out some words with the *igh* sound spelt **y**.

Let's play My turn/Your turn to say these words.

shy sky
dry cry
fly reply
terrify horrify
multiply butterfly

Most words that end in the *igh* sound are spelt with a **y**.

I have made up a handy rhyme about *igh* spelt **y**. Here's my rhyme. Ahem...

If the end of a word sounds like *igh*, It is almost always spelt with a **y**.

Now your turn. One, two, three... Go!

Well our time is up today – I must fly. Keep spelling!

President Alpha



Unit 8: Adding the suffix **–ing** (1)

President Alpha Welcome, Earthlings! You are about to enter the Spelling Zone.

Our Star Speller for today is... Gamma!

Gamma Hello! It's Gamma here.

Sorry if I sound out of breath – I've just been doing a lot of **running**! We were playing one of your Earth games called 'rounders'. Mu found out about it in the Earth museum. I was **batting** first, and there was no **stopping** me – I scored five rounders in a row! While I was **jogging** around the bases, I was also thinking about our spelling focus for today.

First, I wonder if you can remember what a suffix is? Turn to your partner and then tell me.

[Pause video]

Your teacher will choose two children to tell me what a suffix is.

The answer is that it's a group of letters you can add to a root word.

We can add the suffix **-ing**, *ing*, to lots of verbs without making any changes to the root word.

Let's look at some words where we don't need to make any changes before we add **-ing**.

playing creeping sighing glowing annoying

Let's say all these words ending in the suffix **-ing** together.

playing creeping sighing glowing annoying

There are other verbs that do need to be changed a little bit before we add **-ing**. Shall we find out about them? OK, let's go. This is what I mean:

If a verb ends in a short vowel sound (a, e, i, o or u) + a consonant, we have to double the consonant before adding -ing.



Turn to your partner and say:

Double the consonant before adding -ing.

Go!

Let's watch what happens to our words when we follow the rule.

slip slipping get getting pop popping chat chatting

Here are some more verbs ending in a short vowel + a consonant. Let's double the consonant before adding **-ing**.

root word	double the consonant before adding –ing	
sip	si pp ing	
put	putting	
grab	gra bb ing	
step	stepping	
jog	jo gg ing	

That's all for today. Until next time – keep spelling!

President Alpha



Unit 9: Adding the suffix -ing (2)

President Alpha Welcome, Earthlings! You are about to enter the Spelling Zone.

Our Star Speller for today is... Gamma!

Gamma Sizzling sunspots, it's time to look at the suffix **–ing**, *ing*, again!

Today, we're going to learn the rule about adding **-ing** to words ending in **e**.

I'm hoping you'll enjoy learning more about **-ing**.

Here are some words ending in e.

battle rule tackle bake slide choke

Let's play My Turn / Your Turn.

battle rule tackle bake slide choke

So, how do we add **-ing** to words that end in **e**? Well, we must drop the **e** before adding **-ing**.

Turn to your partner and say:

Drop the e before adding -ing.

Go!

Let's watch what happens to our words when we follow the rule.

battle battling rule ruling tackle tackling bake baking slide sliding choke choking



Here are some more verbs ending in **e**. Let's drop the **e** before adding **-ing**.

root word	drop the e before	
	adding -ing	
make	mak ing	
rattle	rattling	
chuckle	chuckling	
shade	shad ing	
take	tak ing	

Before I take the shuttle back to the Spelling planet, I have a little tip to share. There are a few verbs that end in **–ie** such as:

lie die tie

We can add **-ing** to these verbs, but we have to swap the **ie** for a **y** first. This is what I mean:

lie lyingdie dyingtie tying

Watch out for these words when you are reading and writing. There are not many, but try to remember the rule for verbs that end in **–ie**.

Swap the **ie** for a **y** before adding **-ing**.

Your turn!

Well, that's all for today. See you next time!

President Alpha



Unit 10: The j sound

President Alpha Welcome, Earthlings! You are about to enter the Spelling Zone.

Our Star Speller for today is... Zeta!

Zeta Hello! It's Zeta here.

I brought my pet spacezog, **Fudge**, to meet you today. She's quite **large** for a spacezog – but she's very **gentle**! I was starting to write a poem about **Fudge** being **large** but **gentle**, and it gave me an idea for today's Spelling Zone. Did you notice that there are lots of different ways to spell the *j* sound?

Check the j sound box! Say the sounds, after three: one, two, three...

j g ge dge

Here are some words which begin with the j sound spelt with the letter j.

Let's play My turn/Your turn to say all of these words.

jar jam join jacket

The *j* sound is often spelt with the letter **g** before **e**, **i** or **y**.

Let's play My turn/Your turn to say all of the words containing soft and gentle **g**.

gentle gem giant giraffe energy



The *j* sound can be spelt with the letters **ge** at the end of words.

Play My turn/Your turn to say all of the words containing soft and gentle **ge**.

charge

lar**ge**

fringe

bar**ge**

The *j* sound is spelt with the letters **dge** at the end of a word after the **a**, **e**, **i**, **o**, **u** or **oo** sounds. These are short vowel sounds.

Play My turn/Your turn to say all of the words containing soft and gentle dge.

badge ledge

bridge splodge

fudge

Well, that's all for today. I need to give **Fudge** her dinner! Keep spelling.

President Alpha



Unit 11: The o sound spelt a after w and qu

President Alpha Welcome, Earthlings! You are about to enter the Spelling Zone.

Our Star Speller for today is... Gamma!

Gamma Hello! Gamma here.

Well – **what** a day! I was helping Mum tidy up. We also sorted the spacesuits that we needed to **wash** into all the different colours. My zoneball kit was very muddy after the last match! Then we had a nice fruit burst bar and a glass of **squash** afterwards. When I was sorting the **washing** I had an idea for today's Spelling Zone. Today's words have the **o** sound spelt with the letter **a**.

Let's play My turn/Your turn to say all of these words.

was want
what watch
wash wand
wasp wallet
wander squat
squash quality
quantity quarrel

a is the most common spelling for the **o** sound after **w**, **wh** and **qu**.

Here's a rhyme. Ahem...

Spell o with an a after w as in wash, Spell o with an a after qu as in squash.

Now your turn.

Well, all that tidying and spelling has worn me out. I'm going to **wander** off for a quiet rest. See you next time!

President Alpha



Unit 12: Adding the suffix -ed (1)

President Alpha Welcome, Earthlings! You are about to enter the Spelling Zone.

Our Star Speller for today is... Mu!

Mu Hello there! It's Mu here.

When I go time and space travelling, I sometimes go back in time to the past. Today, we are going to have a look at adding **-ed**, *ud*, to words to show that something happened in the past. We call it the past tense.

First, the present tense.

Let's play My turn/Your turn to say these words.

hunt jump lick buzz chant pull

Did you notice that they all end in two consonant letters?

All we have to do to make the past tense is add **-ed**.

Play My turn/Your turn again to say all of these words.

hunt hunted
jump jumped
lick licked
buzz buzzed
chant chanted
pull pulled

It is a lot easier than time travelling!

Not all words end in two consonant letters.

Let's play My turn/Your turn to say these words.

chat

step

flip

slop

hum



They end in a short vowel sound (a, e, i, o or u) + a consonant letter.

When we add **-ed** to these words, we must double the last consonant.

Turn to your partner and say:

Double the consonant before adding -ed.

Let's watch what happens to our words when we follow the rule.

chat chatted
step stepped
flip flipped
slop slopped
hum hummed

Here are some more words ending in a short vowel sound (a, e, i, o or u) + a consonant letter. Let's double the consonant before adding -ed.

root word	double the	
	consonant before	
	adding -ed	
spot	spo tted	
tap	ta pped	
clip	cli pped	
pop	popped	
strum	stru mmed	

That's all for today. I'm glad you **stopped** by. Until next time – keep spelling!

President Alpha



Unit 13: Adding the suffix -ed (2)

President Alpha Welcome, Earthlings! You are about to enter the Spelling Zone.

Our Star Speller for today is... Mu!

Mu Greetings, Earthlings.

We are going back to the past tense again today. We'll explore more about adding **-ed** to words. Today's words all end in a consonant + **y**.

Read then repeat these words after three: one, two, three...

try copy reply hurry

Did you notice that they all end in a consonant + y?

try

copy

reply

hurry

Before adding **-ed** to these words, we need to swap the **y** for an **i**.

Turn to your partner and say:

Swap the y for an i before adding -ed.

Go!

Let's watch what happens to our words when we follow the rule.

try tried

copy copied

reply replied

hurry hurried



Here are some more verbs ending in consonant + y. Let's swap the y for an i before adding -ed.

root word	swap y to i before
	adding -ed
multipl y	multipl ied
hurry	hurr ied
fry	fr ied
study	stud ied

I hope that helps. I've **tried** to explain as best as I can. Until next time – keep spelling!

President Alpha



Unit 14: Adding the suffix -ed (3)

President Alpha Welcome, Earthlings! You are about to enter the Spelling Zone.

Our Star Speller for today is... Zeta!

Zeta Hello, fellow Star Spellers! It's Zeta here.

Today, I am going to show you how to add **-ed** to words that end in **e**. For

example:

tickle rattle shade fine phone rule

Let's play My turn/Your turn to say all of the words.

tickle rattle shade fine phone rule

Did you notice that they all end in a consonant + e?

To make the past tense, we have to drop the **e** before adding **-ed**.

Turn to your partner and say:

Drop the e before adding -ed.

Go!

Let's watch what happens to our words when we follow the rule.

tickle tickled
rattle rattled
shade shaded
fine fined
phone phoned
rule ruled

Well Star Spellers. You now know quite a lot about -ed don't you?



Before adding **-ed** we have to check the root word. Some root words will stay the same. For example:

jump jumped

Some will need to be changed.

fry fried
reply replied
trip tripped
plot plotted
tickle tickled
shape shaped

Sizzling sunspots! That's quite tricky isn't it? Well I've come up with one of my special rhymes to help you to stop and think about root words before adding **-ed**. Ready? Here it is:

Is there a letter I need to swap? Is there a letter to double or drop?

I always stop and think when I am adding **-ed** to root words.

swap?	fry	fried
	reply	replied
double?	trip	tripped
	plot	plotted
drop?	tickle	tickled
	shape	shaped

Now let's play My Turn/Your turn to say the rhyme.

Is there a letter I need to swap?
Is there a letter to double or drop?

That's all from me today, Star Spellers. Keep spelling!

President Alpha