



Parents Guide

About Spellzone



- Online English spelling resource
- Written by a teacher and dyslexia specialist
- Non-patronising, fully accessible, clear navigation
- Browser-based – so nothing to download or install
- Can be used in school, at home, and on mobile devices

Spellzone unlocks the mysteries of English spelling

Spellzone is suitable for...



- Students aged six to adult, including those with dyslexia
- Students in schools, colleges, and universities
- Parents schooling their children at home
- Adults who want to improve their spelling
- People learning English as a foreign language

Spellzone is used in over 60 countries

Spellzone components

Spelling Ability Test

Starter Course

Main Course

Word Lists

All student activity logged – wherever they are!

Spelling Ability Test

Measures students' spelling ability

Provides a baseline Spellzone Score

Creates a personal Course Pathway for each student

Automatically retests and updates according to new learning

[Read more about how the Spelling Ability Test works](#)

Course Pathway for Richard Waring

Main Course


- Unit 6. Short vowels e.g. e or ea? o or u? + Homophones unit ✓
- Unit 7. Long vowels e.g. ee, ea or y? oa, o-e, or ow? u-e, ue, or ew? + Homophones unit
- Unit 8. Syllables: how to divide words
- Unit 9. Suffixes: why we need to double letters, change them, or drop 'e'
- Unit 11. Spelling choices for /er/ sound: er, ir, ur, ear + wor

All results: ↑

43%	07/02/20	
38%	11/01/20	x
27%	29/12/19	x

[View Course Pathway](#) [go](#) [Show deleted results](#) [Download as excel](#)

Spelling Ability Test results for Richard Waring

Spellzone score:  47


[View Course Pathway](#) [go](#)

Results

1 cat ✓	20 about ✓	39 delay ✓
2 hen ✓	21 look ✓	40 fortune ✓
3 cub ✓	22 could ✓	41 concrete ✓
4 sit ✓	23 miss ✓	42 delite X
5 hop ✓	24 call ✓	43 shallow ✓
6 mud ✓	25 stick ✓	44 refine ✓
7 list ✓	26 cliff ✓	
8 grin ✓	27 when ✓	
9 stump ✓	28 thick ✓	
10 robin ✓	29 chess ✓	
11 tent ✓	30 whip ✓	
12 stop ✓	31 tenth ✓	
13 slept ✓	32 cstch ✓	
14 plastic ✓	33 spred ✓	
15 back ✓	34 swam ✓	
16 very ✓	35 syrup ✓	
17 hear X	36 love ✓	
18 there ✓	37 young ✓	
19 some ✓	38 chain ✓	

Spelling Ability Test

Question: 42



Check the word carefully before pressing 'Next word'.

height

[Next word](#)

Click on the person if you don't hear the sound.

[Start the test again](#)

All test questions are clearly recorded

Starter Course

Entry-level resource in eight units

Teaches the basic phonics rules using multi-sensory activities and tests

Pre-loaded word lists include the top 100 high-frequency words

Starter Course, Unit 1: Section 1

Words with a

Listen

c d n p s t a

Learn

cap

pad

pan

sat

dad

sad

cat

tap

Do

Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check

Cats and dogs

Choose the correct dog to spell a word from the list.

Words:

cap	dad
pad	sad
pan	cat
sat	tap

next

All instructions, phonic sounds, and words are recorded

Main Course

Covers all the English spelling rules and includes 'rule breakers'

Teaching text includes definitions, sentence context, and learning tips

Interactive tests with instant feedback – 'traffic light' scoring system encourages students

Links to word lists and practice activities in each unit

Consonants in one-syllable words: one consonant or two?

Most consonants are easy to spell: Just listen to the sounds you hear and write one letter for each sound:

rat peg drip blob drum

Sometimes you need **two** consonants after a **short** vowel sound.

Think Back The **short** vowel sounds are those you hear at the start of these words:

alligator elephant insect

Now Teach Me Some end consonants need to be **doubled** after need to double are:

f > ff s > ss

cliff pass

staff	mass
sniff	class
tuff	press
puff	stress
bluff	fuss
cuff	hiss
stuff	miss
scoff	boss
off ('get off)	cross

Learn the words:

Unit 10: Spelling the sound /ar/: ar, al or just a ?

If you can hear the sound /ar/ in a word the spelling is nearly always **ar**. Say the words aloud and listen to the vowel sound:

cards shark

Read the words below. If you are unsure of them, print this page and learn them by using 'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check':

1 syllable words	2 syllable words
far	

Listen and Spell

I _____ no other option.

Listen to the word and type it below:

ceiling receipt receive deceive conceive

Click on the ringmaster to repeat the word.

Take a test in these words.

Basic, intermediate and advanced levels

Accessibility

Use this feature to:

Change font and background colour

Change font size and style

Access a text-to-speech facility

Spellzone will remember your settings!

Click play for auto read or highlight a section of text.

Listen

text: background: reset

(size A A A A)

font: Arial Century Gothic Comic Sans OpenDyslexic Tahoma Times Verdana

Spelling the sound /sh/ : sh ch ti ci

Your current location:
Unit 5: Spelling the consonant digraphs, part 2
Page 2 of 11
Dictionary

The /sh/ sound

The most common way of spelling the sound /sh/ is with the letters **sh**. A few words (from French) use **ch**.

In the middle of a word the sound /sh/ is sometimes spelled **ei** or **ti**.

Read the words aloud and listen for the sound /sh/ in each word.

shell	chef	station
shed	champagne	Note: Only a few common words are listed here. For many more with ti and ei please see Units 28 and 30.
shelf	chalet	
shrimp	machine	
sheep	brochure	

“Spellzone is an effective piece of software which is good to use with LLDD students requiring overlay colours and a variety of font sizes.”

Tutor, Heart of Worcestershire College, UK

Using Spellzone

What will the school do?

- Provide your child with a Spellzone username and password
- Use Spellzone to log and monitor your child's progress (teachers can use Spellzone to produce a range of reports on an individual's activity and results).

What will my child need to do?

- Go to: <https://www.spellzone.com>
- Click on the 'Log in' button at the top of the screen and enter username and password
- **Spellzone usernames and passwords are case sensitive**
- If your child cannot remember their login details, they will need to ask their teacher
- Do not contact Spellzone as they are unable to access these details.

Note: If several people are using the same PC to access Spellzone, please ensure that each person logs out before the next person logs in.

Remember that your browser may store the Spellzone login details of other users, so please ensure that you are using the correct details for each account.

“Spellzone broadens students vocabulary significantly, improving comprehension and attainment across subjects.”

Anna Hughes, Head of English, St Hugh's, England

Using Spellzone

What will parents need to do?

- Parents will need to support their child in using Spellzone by enabling computer access and encouraging them to complete the programme as required
- Spellzone recommends between 20 -30 minutes per week or 10 minutes per day – ask your school for specific guidance

Can parents view their child's activity and results?

- All activity and results are stored securely online
- Your child can view their results by logging into Spellzone and clicking on 'My Results'

Note: If several people are using the same PC to access Spellzone, please ensure that each person logs out before the next person logs in.

Remember that your browser may store the Spellzone login details of other users, so please ensure that you are using the correct details for each account.

**“There's no doubt that a 400% improvement
in spelling age represents a superb result.”**

Director of Inclusion, Millthorpe School, York

Logging in for the first time

When a student logs into Spellzone for the first time, they will be prompted to take the Spelling Ability Test. *

On completion of the test, they will be provided with a baseline Spellzone Score and a personal Course Pathway which shows the Spellzone units to be completed.

The test is repeated at key points and the score and pathway is updated according to progress made.

** unless deactivated by the school*

The image shows a screenshot of the Spellzone website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'spellzone' logo and 'The online English spelling resource'. Below it, there are tabs for 'My Spellzone', 'Spelling Course', and 'Word Lists'. A secondary navigation bar includes 'My Course Pathway', 'My Tasks', 'My Word Lists', 'My Messages', 'My Rewards', 'My Results', and 'My Details'. The main content area is titled 'My Spellzone' and features a cartoon character of a girl with pink hair. A message prompts the user to take a 'Spelling Ability Test' to create a 'Course Pathway'. To the right, there is a 'My Name' section with fields for 'Sarah Sturdy', 'Whitley College', and 'Status: Spellzone Newbie'. Below that is a 'My Points and Rewards' section with a table showing 'effort', 'achv', and 'total' for 'This week'.

The 'Spelling Ability Test' interface is shown in a larger view. It features the same cartoon character and a text box with the instruction: 'Check the word carefully before pressing "Next word"'. The word 'height' is entered in a text field, and a 'Next word' button is visible. Below the text box, it says 'Click on the person if you don't hear the sound.' A 'Start the test again' button is at the bottom left of the test interface.

The 'Course Pathway for Richard V' section lists the following units:

- Unit 6. Short vowels e.g. e or ea? o or u? + Homophones unit
- Unit 7. Long vowels e.g. ee, ea or y? oa, o-e, or
- Unit 8. Syllables: how to divide words
- Unit 9. Suffixes: why we need to double letters, Change them, or drop e
- Unit 11. Spelling choices for /er/ sound: er, ir, ur, ear + wor
- Unit 12. Spelling choices for /air/ sound: air, are, ear + Homophones unit
- Unit 13. Spelling choices for /oo/ sound: oo, ou + Homophones unit
- Unit 14. Spelling choices for /or/ sound: or, ore, au, aw + war + Homophones unit

A note states: 'Spelling Ability Test at this point. The Course Pathway will be updated.' Below this, a footnote says: '* Units 3 and 5 are out of sequence within the course pathway to represent their level of difficulty.' A link at the bottom reads: 'Read about the Spelling Ability Test and Course Pathway'.

“Spellzone provides students with an independent learning tool that is paced for them, with no pressure. It suits a range of learner profiles and ages.”

Head of Student Support, Sotogrande International School, Spain

Logging in on a regular basis

Following the Spelling Ability Test, a student will be prompted to study their Course Pathway. *

Students get instant results following each course test.

Students can give feedback on their confidence levels at the end of each unit.

The screenshot shows the Spellzone website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'spellzone' logo and 'The online English spelling resource'. Below that, there are tabs for 'My Spellzone', 'Spelling Course', and 'Word Lists'. A secondary navigation bar includes 'My Course Pathway', 'My Tasks', 'My Word Lists', 'My Messages', 'My Rewards', 'My Results', and 'My Details'. The main content area is titled 'My Course Pathway' and features a cartoon character. It displays 'My Course Pathway' with a 'Course Pathway' toggle switch set to 'ON'. Below this, it lists 'Course Pathway units' from Unit 1 to Unit 10. A 'Spelling Ability Test' result is shown as a green bar at 45%, with a 'View this result' button. A note states: 'Spelling Ability Test at this point. The Course Pathway will be updated.'

This screenshot shows a lesson page for the letter 'y'. It starts with the question 'Y: When is it a vowel?' and explains that a vowel is a sound made without closing any part of the mouth or throat. It includes a 'Good luck!' message and a 'Sometimes the letter y makes a vowel sound.' section. There are three icons: a pencil, a speech bubble with '20', and a speech bubble with 'y'. Below these, there are two boxes: 'In these words the letter y makes a consonant sound.' (listing yellow, yak, yoghurt, yo-yo) and 'In both these sets the sound of the letter y is a vowel sound.' (listing sky, cry, fly, shy and twenty, baby, happy, family).

How do you feel about this unit?

Confused Unsure Just OK Confident Uber-confident!

Words with Silent Letters

Result for Ed Partridge - Attempt 3 out of 3

Which letters are missing?	Answer	You put	Correct?
She has a very __inkled face.	wrinkled	wrinkled	✓
Lick the stamp to moi__en the gum.	moisten	moitsen	✗

* unless deactivated by the school

“Pupils like the bank of vocabulary; it encourages them to use higher level vocabulary in their writing”

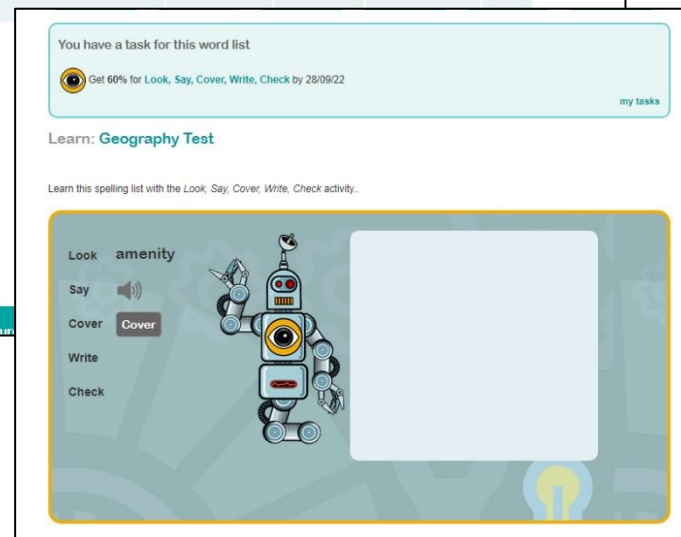
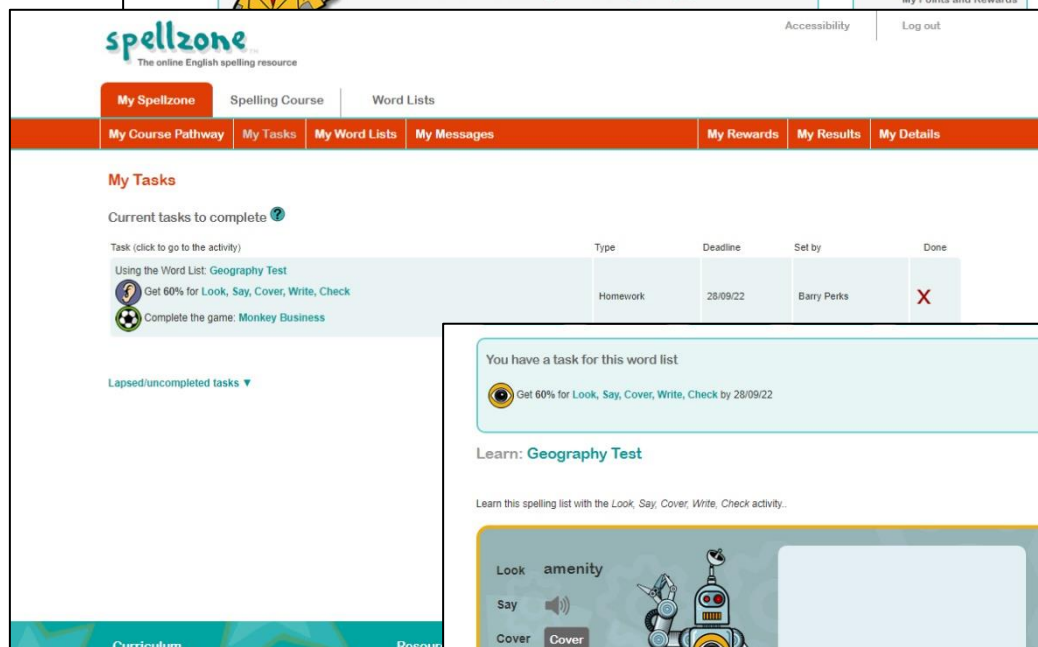
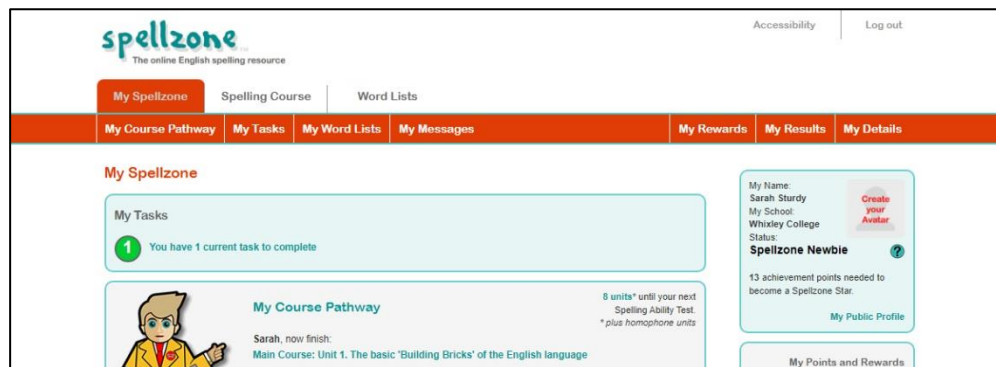
Siobhan Moulding, Class Teacher, Thomas A Becket Junior School, England

Tasks

In addition to the Spelling Ability Test and Course Pathway, teachers may set classroom or homework tasks for students to complete.

These may be word lists to support the Course Pathway or a specific subject, for example key words needed for a project or exam.

Tasks will only appear in the 'My Spellzone' page when the start date occurs. The deadline for the task will also be shown.



“His standardised score has risen from 99 to 131. This is a truly phenomenal result. I just wanted to share the best result I have ever seen.”

Terrie Penrose-Toms, Casterton College

Technical information



Spellzone is an online resource and can be used on any internet-connected PC, laptop, or mobile device

Browsers

- For best performance, we recommend the [Google Chrome](#) browser, version 40+

Sound

- We recommend the use of headphones, especially when taking the Spelling Ability Test
- Sound features in Spellzone use HTML5 audio and occasionally HTML5 speech synthesis – test your browser will work with Spellzone voice facilities [here](#)
- Sound will not play automatically on mobile browsers and students will need to click the icon to hear it (on the Spelling Ability Test students will need to click the icon for each sound)

Technical information



Games

- The Spellzone games are built in HTML5
- If your games do not work, please [check that JavaScript is enabled](#)
- If JavaScript is enabled and you still cannot play the games, please check that your browser version is up to date

Auto-Correct, Check Spelling, and Predictive Text

- To get the most out of Spellzone, disable the Auto-Correct, Check Spelling, and Predictive Text features when using any smart device such as an iPad, iPhone, or Android
- Please see your device's user manual for instructions

Advertising on Spellzone



- Spellzone is used by schools, colleges, individuals, families, and home schools across the world. In order to keep prices low and to support the continued development of Spellzone, we do accept some advertising via Google AdSense.
- The advertising is only visible to those who are **NOT** logged into Spellzone. When a Spellzone subscription is purchased (or during a school trial), **NO** advertising will appear when users are logged in.
- Spellzone is committed to being a responsible member of the educational community. Care has been taken not to include any inappropriate material and the Spellzone resources do **NOT** contain content of a sexual or violent nature.
- If you notice an advertisement or any content that you feel is offensive or inappropriate, please [inform Spellzone](#) immediately and include the name and website address (URL) of the company that is advertising.
- Spellzone would like to remind parents and teachers that children using the internet should be supervised. For more information, please read the Spellzone [Terms and Conditions](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and [Cookie Policy](#).

Support



Forgotten login details:

- Contact a teacher in your school

Spellzone are unable to access these details

Technical issues:

- [Visit the online help pages](#)
- [Contact Spellzone](#)