

Spelling Rules and Concepts

Rule / Concept	Definition	First introduced in the program:
Vowels and Consonants	The vowels are a, e, i, o, u and sometimes y. Consonants are not vowels.	Phase 1 Week 3
Short and Long Vowels	ă ĭ ě ǒ ŭ ā ē ī ō ū	Phase 1 Week 4
Syllable	A syllable is a clap or a beat in a word. Every syllable must have a vowel in it.	Phase 1 Week 5
C or K Spelling Rule Part 1 and 2	We use k before e, i or y. We use c before a, o or u. After a consonant we use k. Before a consonant we use c.	Part 1: Phase 1 Week 6 Part 2: Phase 1 Week 14
-ve	English words never end with the letter v. There is always an e after it.	Phase 1 Week 6
Floss Rule	We use -ff, -ll, -ss and -zz at the end of a one syllable word after a short vowel.	Phase 1 Week 10
Noun Plural	A noun is an ordinary word for a person, place or thing. Plural means more than one.	Phase 1 Week 15
Floss and Friends Rule (ck rule)	We use -ck, -ff, -ll, -ss and -zz at the end of a one syllable word after a short vowel.	Phase 1 Week 17
qu	Q and U stick like glue.	Phase 1 Week 21
Verb	A verb is a doing, being or having word.	Phase 1 Week 23 Phase 2 Week 6
Suffix	A suffix is a letter or group of letters, added to the end of the word. It changes the meaning slightly.	Phase 1 Week 23 (mentioned only - not taught) Phase 2 Week 6

Vowel Team	A vowel team is 2 vowels together that make 1 sound.	Phase 1 Week 24
Homophones	A homophone is a word that is pronounced the same as another word but has a different meaning and sometimes a different spelling.	Phase 1 Week 29
Adjective	An adjective describes a noun.	Phase 2 Week 8
Closed Syllable Syllable Division VC/CV	A closed syllable ends with a consonant. The vowel sound is short. (ă) (ĕ) (ĭ) (ō) (ŭ)	Phase 2 Week 14
Open Syllable Syllable Division V/CV	An open syllable ends with a vowel. The vowel sound is long. (ā) (ē) (ī) (ō) (ū)	Phase 2 Week 15
Vowel y at the end of long words	We use the letter y on the end of longer words to spell the sound (ĕ).	Phase 2 Week 15
-cle / -kle Rule	We use -kle on the end of 2 syllable words. We use -cle on the end of 3 or more syllable words. <i>Exceptions: circle, cycle, uncle, muscle</i>	Phase 2 Week 16
Soft c	The letter c in front of e, i or y says (s) always.	Phase 2 Week 20
Soft g	The letter g in front of e, i or y says (j) usually.	Phase 2 Week 21
Suffix es	We use suffix -es if the base word ends with ss, sh, x, z or ch.	Phase 2 Week 22
A Vowel Suffix A Consonant Suffix	A vowel suffix begins with a vowel. A consonant suffix begins with a consonant.	Phase 2 Week 24
A says (ah)	The letter a spells the sound (ah) when it comes before s, f or th.	Phase 2 Week 25
A says (or)	The letter a spells the sound (or) when it comes before l.	Phase 2 Week 26
Adverb	An adverb describes a verb.	Phase 2 Week 28
Prefix	A prefix is a letter or group of letters added to the beginning of a (base) word. It changes the meaning slightly.	Phase 2 Week 32

-ic / -ick	We use -ic at the end of a 2 or more syllable word to spell the sounds (ɪk).	Phase 2 Week 34
Floss and Friends Rule (adding -dge and -tch)	We use -dge, -tch, -ck, -ff, -ll, -ss and -zz at the end of a one syllable word after a short vowel.	Phase 2 Week 35 & 36
Pronoun	A pronoun takes the place of a noun.	Phase 3 Week 5
Contractions	A contraction is a combination of 2 words pushed together. Take out 1 or more letters and an apostrophe goes in its place.	Phase 3 Week 6
111 Doubling Rule	When the base word has 1 syllable, 1 vowel, 1 consonant after the vowel and we are adding a vowel suffix; we need to double the final consonant.	Phase 3 Week 30
Drop e Rule	We drop the e when adding a vowel suffix. We keep the e when adding a consonant suffix.	Phase 3 Week 31
The y Rules	Consonant y + any suffix = change the y to an i Consonant y + suffix -s = change y to i & add es Vowel y + any suffix = just add Vowel y + suffix -s = just add Consonant y OR Vowel y + -ing = just add	Phase 4 Week 13
	Suffixing ie endings Adding suffix -s = just add Adding suffix -ed = drop the e and add -ed Adding suffix -ing = change the y to i & add -ing	Phase 4 Week 13
211 Doubling Rule	When the base word has 2 syllables, 1 vowel, 1 consonant after the vowel, the accent is on the 2nd Syllable and we are adding a vowel suffix; we need to double the final consonant. If a 211 word ends in an l, we just always double.	Phase 4 Week 27