

SPAG

Spelling Punctuation and Grammar



Welcome

Session aims...

- ▶ Highlight some key areas of knowledge with strategies for helping your child in Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPAG)
- ▶ Join in the learning with your child in class



At a glance, how does the new curriculum compare the old?

- ▶ Note that the new curriculum has Years 3 and 4 combined in one programme of study.
- ▶ What's been removed Yr 3 & 4
 - Identifying presentational features of broadcast texts.
 - Explicit mentions of drama (except performing scripts).
 - Use of layout, graphics & font for presentation.
 - Keyboard/typing skills.
- ▶ What's been added?
 - Recognise different forms of poetry.
 - Prepare poetry for performance.
 - *Using fronted adverbials.*
 - *Increased requirements for spelling & grammar.*
 - Evaluate, edit & proof-read own writing.



Example: Vocab, Punctuation and Grammar

Year 3

- ▶ Use fronted adverbials
- ▶ Use commas after fronted adverbials

Year 4

- ▶ *Fronted adverbials followed by a comma*

Spelling

We want a school of excellent spellers! Why?

- ▶ It is important to learn how to spell in this age of texting
- ▶ We need to raise standards
- ▶ New SPAG test (Spelling and Grammar Test) for Year 6
- ▶ End of year expectations from September 2014



The Teaching of Spelling at Denmead Junior School...

- ▶ Spellings will be explicitly taught
- ▶ Rules, and patterns will be investigated using a multi-sensory approach
- ▶ Gaps identified and then targeted

The spellings on weekly lists are rarely applied to independent writing unless they have been thoroughly taught *and investigated*.

Benefits of Spelling Investigations!

- ▶ They appeal to problem-solving instincts
- ▶ Children have to be more active in deconstructing words
- ▶ They model a self-help strategy
- ▶ An interesting way to learn
- ▶ They aid memory
- ▶ They are more likely to lead to children applying correct spellings to their work than learning lists.



Spelling Tests

- ▶ Your child receives a spelling list every week which is either:
 - ▶ linked to a rule being investigated in class (i.e. Adding 'ing')
 - ▶ A list of words linked to a topic (practise spelling strategies)
 - ▶ A list of words which your child has spelt incorrectly in their independent writing (practise spelling strategies)
- ▶ Please help your child to practise their spellings in fun and interesting ways.



Grammar



Three types of sentences...

- ▶ Simple
- ▶ Compound
- ▶ Complex



Essential Sentence Ingredients...

A complete sentence has three characteristics:

- ▶ Capital letter.
- ▶ Full stop (.), question mark (?), or exclamation mark(!)
- ▶ Must contain *at least* one **main** clause
- ▶ A **main clause** contains an independent **subject** and **verb** and expresses a complete thought
- ▶ *The girl is sleeping. (simple sentence)*



- ▶ Main and Subordinate Clauses!

Every main clause will follow this pattern:
subject + verb = complete thought.

For example: My dog is nine years old.

- ▶ Subordinate clauses are clauses that add detail to the main clause but would not make sense if they stood on their own.

For example: As the snow was thawing and the forecast had improved, Mr Beckerson opened the school.



Now we can progress...

- ▶ The lady was sleeping. – Simple sentence
- ▶ The lady was sleeping *and* the dog was snoring. – Compound sentence.
- ▶ The lady was sleeping, *whilst dreaming of cake*, in her comfortable bed. – Complex sentence.
- ▶ *Whilst dreaming of cake*, the lady slept comfortably in her bed. – Complex sentence.
- ▶ The lady slept in her comfortable bed *whilst dreaming of cake*. – Complex sentence.

Using conjunctions.

- ▶ There are many different ways to connect these sentences.

Mum was happy.
Dad did the washing-up.

Mum was happy.
Dad did the washing-up.

because

although

whenever

so

but

and

then

until

after

if



Punctuation



▶ Yr 2

. ! ? , ‘

▶ Yr 3&4

. ! ? , ‘ “ ”

▶ Yr 5&6

. ! ? , ‘ “ ” – () : ;

Focus on Punctuation.

- ▶ How would you punctuate this sentence?

a woman without her man is nothing



Focus on Punctuation.

- ▶ Two possible ways to punctuate the sentence giving two different meanings:
- ▶ A woman, without her man, is nothing.
- ▶ A woman: without her, man is nothing.

Useful Websites

- ▶ <http://www.risingstars-uk.com/curriculumparentguide/>
- ▶ http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/spelling_grammar/
- ▶ <http://www.compare4kids.co.uk/literacy.php>
- ▶ See other resources



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Thank you for your time.

Please feel free to go and see how your child is working and join in!

Feedback forms are available and we welcome your comments.

Thank you

