



0 – 25 Specialist Teaching and Support Service

How to use Simultaneous Oral Spelling (SOS) Technique

Why?

- Highly effective in improving spelling, especially for young learners.
- It is a multi-sensory technique that combines audio (hearing), visual (seeing), and kinaesthetic (touch/doing) methods, helping children remember how to spell the words they practice.
- It's simple and effective.



You will need:

- Paper
- Pencil
- Coloured pencils or felt tips.



How?

1. Explain to the pupil that they are going to be learning how to spell a word.
2. Fold a piece of A4 paper into quarters.
3. First, say the word and ask the child to repeat it.
4. Next, the supporting adult writes the word in the first box. Model saying each letter as you write it. Using letter names, not letter sounds. The adult then says the word.
5. The child traces over the word with their finger saying the letter names as they trace each letter, and then says the word.
6. Now the child copies the word in the second box, saying each letter as they write it and then the word.
7. Next, the child takes a coloured pencil or felt tip and traces over the letters several times (up to 5 times), again naming each letter as they overwrite it, creating a rainbow word. Ensure the pupil remembers to say the word each time they write it.
8. Fold the piece of paper in half so only the final two boxes are visible.
9. The child writes the word in the third box saying the letter names and then the word aloud when they have finished writing it.
10. Repeat step 9, until the child feels confident that they can remember how to spell the word.
11. Fold the paper so that you can only see the last box and ask the child to write the word with their eyes closed.
12. It is best to learn only 2/3 words per session in this way.

SIMULTANEOUS ORAL SPELLING (SOS) METHOD

<p>1. The adult writes the word, saying the letter names and then the word. The child traces over the letters with their finger saying the letter names and the word.</p>	<p>2. The child copies the word, saying each letter name as they write it, and then says the word. Next, the child traces over the word using different coloured crayons or felt-tip pens repeatedly to create a rainbow word, again saying the letter names and then the word.</p>
<p>3. Fold the paper to hide the 2 boxes above. Ask the child to spell the word from memory saying the letter names and then the word. If incorrect, look where they are going wrong and help them to think of a strategy to spell the word. Practise again.</p>	<p>4. Ask the child to write the word with their eyes closed, saying the letter names and then the word.</p>