

YEAR 1 & 2

COMMON EXCEPTION WORDS

Most people read words more accurately than they spell them. The younger pupils are, the truer this is.

By the end of Year 1, pupils should be able to read a large number of different words containing the grapheme-phoneme correspondences that they have learnt, whether or not they have seen these words before. Spelling, however, is a very different matter. Once pupils have learnt more than one way of spelling particular sounds, choosing the right letter or letters depends on their either having made a conscious effort to learn the words or having absorbed them less consciously through their reading. Younger pupils have not had enough time to learn or absorb the accurate spelling of all the words that they may want to write.

The following lists of 'common exception words' are words used frequently in pupils' writing and therefore it is worth pupils learning the correct spelling.

Word List – Year 1

the
a
do
to
today
of
said
says
are
were
was
is
his
has
I

you
your
they
be
he
me
she
we
no
go
so
by
my
here
there

where
love
come
some
one
once
ask
friend
school
put
push
pull
full
house
our

Word List – Year 2

door	even	sugar
floor	great	eye
poor	break	could
because	steak	should
find	pretty	would
kind	beautiful	who
mind	after	whole
behind	fast	any
child	last	many
children	past	clothes
wild	father	busy
climb	class	people
most	grass	water
only	pass	again
both	plant	half
old	path	money
cold	bath	Mr
gold	hour	Mrs
hold	move	parents
told	prove	Christmas
every	improve	
everybody	sure	

The 'exception words' contain grapheme-phoneme correspondences which have not yet been taught as widely applicable, but this may be because they are applicable in very few age-appropriate words rather than because they are rare in English words in general.