

Your Spelling, Ages 5-11, £2.99, Apple

Designed by teachers, this app focuses on the words children need to know for KS1 SATs and KS2 SATs. There are three separate apps: KS1, KS2 Age 7-9, and KS2 Age 9-11. They can be bought individually or as a bundle.

Your Spelling reads each word aloud to your child; they then need to spell it correctly. If they need help, they can ask to see the word and it pops up on screen.

Overall, it's a fairly dry app, although children can unlock characters for each list they complete correctly, but it's good for drilling down the words they're expected to learn under the National Curriculum.

Best for using primary school methodology

Spelling Whizz, £1.99, Apple

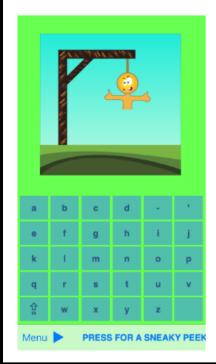
This app uses the 'look – say – cover – write – check' method used in many primary schools. Each word appears on screen and is spoken aloud; when your child has had a chance to study it, they can cover it up and write it from memory before checking their answer.

Words are divided into six sets that increase in difficulty and replicate the sort of tests often set by schools: for example, 'ai' and 'ay' words (Set 1), suffixes and prefixes (Set 3) and homophones and silent letters (Set 6). You can also create your own lists of your child's spellings.

The downside is that there are no rewards or incentives for getting spellings right, but if you're looking for an app that closely follows the National Curriculum, Spelling Whizz does the trick.



Best for challenging your child



Spelling Hangman, £1.99, Apple

Make learning weekly spellings fun with this new take on an old favourite game. You can enter your child's list of spellings, with the option to record them in your voice as well.

The app then gives your child a word to spell; you can choose whether they see it first, or whether it's just read out. Your child then picks a letter – and if it's not in the word, a piece of the gallows or hangman appears. As a tricky twist, they have to choose the letters in the correct order, too.

Can they beat the hangman and complete the word?

Best for rewards



Squeebles Spelling Test, £3.99, Apple and Android

This app lets you create spelling tests with your choice of words: great for practising weekly spellings. You can record the words in your own voice, and choose how long your child gets to study them before attempting to spell them.

You can set up different profiles so you can test each child on their own words.

Your child earns stars and cute creatures (Squeebles) for getting words right. They can then use these to play Squeeberang!, a boomerang game where they can compete against siblings or friends, or try to beat their own highest score.

You can also download a range of ready-made tests tailored to your child's age and stage, such as high frequency words and tricky words for confident readers.