



Expect Education
BECAUSE THERE'S MORE TO YOU THAN YOU THINK

Level 3

BOOK 3A

SPELLING SUCKS!

...but we do it anyway.

12

weeks

240

words

1

page a day

Plus a spelling test every Friday.



Meet Phil. He's not impressed.

Expect Education
Spell Squad series

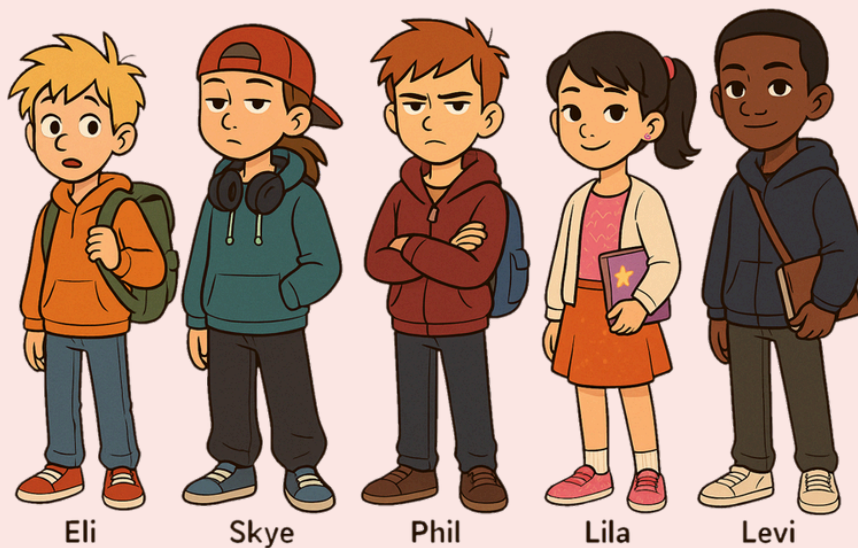
WELCOME!

You're now part of an elite team of reluctant spelling warriors.

We're not here because we love spelling... we're here because we've got goals, grit, and just enough sarcasm to get through it.

You've joined **Phil**. Which means more challenge, more sarcasm and a lot less hand-holding. (His words, not ours.)

But guess what? This book is just **one** stage of the journey.



Eli

Skye

Phil

Lila

Levi

Want to level up? Meet the squad.

1

Eli

Clumsy beginnings. Big heart. Lots of mistakes.

2

Skye

Shortcuts, guesses, and low-key genius.

3

Phil

You are here

Sarcasm, sweat, and serious spelling power.

4

Lila

Style, logic, and word-perfect precision.

5

Levi

Calm, cool, and in total control of every syllable.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

One page a day. Five days a week. Twelve weeks. Let's go.

Each week focuses on one spelling pattern. You'll follow the same routine every week, and the squad will pop up with jokes, tips, groans and (occasionally) actual help.

Day 1

Theme & word list

Meet the week's spelling pattern and the 20 words you'll be working with.

Day 2

Look, cover, write, check

Say each word out loud. Get it wrong. Get it right. You'll write every word four times.

Day 3

Sentence builder

Write each word in a proper sentence. No cheating with "I like ___". Make it count.

Day 4

Word workout 1

Sorting, spotting and fixing: puzzles that make the rule stick.

Day 5

Word workout 2 & test prep

A puzzle that changes every week, then a mini review to get you ready for the test.

Test

Notes & spelling test

Jot down the tricky ones, take your test, and score yourself out of 20.

Tips for getting the most out of it

- ☐ Use a pencil. You'll make mistakes. That's the point.
- ☐ Say the words out loud. Hearing helps remembering.
- ☐ Try your best, not your fastest.
- ☐ Don't skip pages, and ask for help when you need it.
- ☐ Grown-ups: the answers are at the back of the book.

Most importantly: stick with it. That's what the squad is all about.



Week 1 · Level 3

LIST NUMBER 1

Short vowel sounds



Short vowels.
Again.
Thrilling.



This week's mission

Every syllable has a vowel sound, and in longer words at least one of them is usually short. Clap the beats, then listen for the short vowel in the strongest beat: sand-wich, splen-did, vin-e-gar, coll-ege, mus-cle. Counting syllables also helps you spell long words one chunk at a time.



Tick off each day as
you finish it

☐

Mon

☐

Tue

☐

Wed

☐

Thu

☐

Fri

1

LIST 1 · SHORT VOWEL SOUNDS

Meet your 20 words. Study them, then make them yours.

EXAMPLEa rith me tic **noun**

The part of maths that uses adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing.

Note

Use a dictionary, phone or computer to help, but write the definitions in your own words.

1 arithmetic**11** original**2** sandwich**12** tactic**3** practice**13** prosper**4** advertise**14** occur**5** alphabet**15** college**6** splendid**16** convince**7** mentally**17** supported**8** gentlemen**18** muscle**9** vinegar**19** insulting**10** disgust**20** luxury**Task**

Like the example: underline each syllable, highlight the short vowel sound, write the part of speech (noun, verb, adjective) on the dotted line and the meaning on the line below.

2**LOOK, COVER, WRITE, CHECK**

Read the word, cover it, try to write it, then check your spelling.

	Try 1	Try 2	Try 3	Try 4	✓
arithmetic					☐
sandwich					☐
practice					☐
advertise					☐
alphabet					☐
splendid					☐
mentally					☐
gentlemen					☐
vinegar					☐
disgust					☐
original					☐
tactic					☐
prosper					☐
occur					☐
college					☐
convince					☐
supported					☐
muscle					☐
insulting					☐
luxury					☐

Task

Fold the page or use a ruler to hide the words. Do one try at a time: write it, uncover, check. Tick the box once you get it right all four times.

3

SENTENCE BUILDER

Write a sentence using each word from List 1.

example: Phil put so much vinegar on his chips that his eyes started watering.

arithmetic

sandwich

practice

advertise

alphabet

splendid

mentally

gentlemen

vinegar

disgust

original

tactic

prosper

occur

college

convince

supported

muscle

insulting

luxury

Task

Every sentence needs a capital letter, a full stop and at least six words. Make it something only *you* would write.

4

WORD WORKOUT 1

Fill it, count it, prove it.

A • Syllable sort

Clap each word, then sort it by how many syllables it has.

muscle

convince

tactic

insulting

gentlemen

mentally

luxury

advertise

college

arithmetic

disgust

splendid

supported

vinegar

occur

practice

sandwich

prosper

alphabet

original

2 syllables**3 syllables****4 syllables****B • Odd one out**

Circle the word that doesn't share the same spelling pattern, then write the pattern the other three share.

1

arithmetic

prosper

occur

splendid

2

luxury

gentlemen

sandwich

mentally

3

college

prosper

original

tactic

4

tactic

insulting

gentlemen

advertise

5**WORD WORKOUT 2**

One last workout, then get ready for your test.

A - Code breaker

Phil has intercepted a secret message. Each number stands for a letter. Use the key to crack the code and write the 8 words from List 1.

A 22	B 13	C 25	D 26	E 8	F 19	G 5	H 9	I 20	J 4	K 15	L 3	M 11
N 6	O 10	P 18	Q 7	R 2	S 12	T 24	U 21	V 17	W 1	X 14	Y 16	Z 23

1

25 10 3 3 8 5 8

2

24 22 25 24 20 25

3

18 2 10 12 18 8 2

4

25 10 6 17 20 6 25 8

5

10 2 20 5 20 6 22 3

6

12 21 18 18 10 2 24 8 26

7

12 22 6 26 1 20 25 9

8

11 21 12 25 3 8

B - Test prep

Ask someone to read you five words from List 1 that you find tricky. Write them without looking, then check.

1**2****3****4****5**

**Unscramble these? I
can barely
unscramble my bag.**





NOTES & TEST

Jot down anything tricky, then test yourself after all the practice.

My notes

[illegible]

**Spelling test.
My favourite.
(Not really.)**

Spelling test

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	

Score / 20



ANSWERS FOR GROWN-UPS

Answers to every workout. For Look, Cover, Write, Check and the spelling test, use the word list.

List 1 · Short vowel sounds

Workout 1A: Syllable sort

2 syllables: sandwich, practice, splendid, disgust, tactic, prosper, occur, college, convince, muscle · 3 syllables: advertise, alphabet, mentally, gentlemen, vinegar, supported, insulting, luxury · 4 syllables: arithmetic, original

Workout 1B: Odd one out

1 arithmetic (others: 2 syllables) · 2 sandwich (others: 3 syllables) · 3 original (others: 2 syllables) · 4 tactic (others: 3 syllables)

Workout 2: Code breaker

1 college · 2 tactic · 3 prosper · 4 convince · 5 original · 6 supported · 7 sandwich · 8 muscle

List 2 · Long a sound

Workout 1A: Meaning match

escape = To get away · toothache = A pain in your mouth · essay = A long piece of writing · despair = A feeling of no hope · raisin = A dried grape · container = A box or tub for keeping things in

Workout 1B: Fix it

1 despair · 2 veil · 3 essay · 4 vacant · 5 waistline · 6 potato · 7 neighbour · 8 reindeer

Workout 2: Crossword

Across: 4 essay, 5 veil, 6 container, 8 toothache, 9 neighbour · Down: 1 potato, 2 weight, 3 reindeer, 7 raisin

List 3 · Long e sound

Workout 1A: Long e sort

e / ee: sesame, recipe, career, proceed · ea: feature, increase · e_e: complete, delete · ie: grief, relief, shield, thief, cashier, achieve · ei: ceiling, either, conceit, deceit, neither, weird

Workout 1B: Odd one out

1 either (others: e / ee) · 2 complete (others: ie) · 3 increase (others: ei) · 4 feature (others: e / ee)

Workout 2: The thief's weird recipe

1 achieve, 2 recipe, 3 sesame, 4 thief, 5 grief, 6 Either, 7 neither, 8 weird, 9 relief, 10 ceiling

SPELLING SUCKS!

A 12-week, one-page-a-day spelling programme for kids who would rather be doing literally anything else.

- 12 spelling patterns and 240 carefully levelled words
- Daily practice: word study, look-cover-write-check, sentences and puzzles
- A spelling test every week, a progress tracker and answers for grown-ups
- Written by a teacher and tutor with over a decade in the classroom

One series. Five levels. The same 24 weekly themes.

Every level revisits the same patterns with harder words, so children build on what they know instead of starting again. Not sure which level? Take the free spelling assessment at expectededucation.co.uk/spelling



Eli

Skye

Phil

Lila

Levi



Expect Education
BECAUSE THERE'S MORE TO YOU THAN YOU THINK

Which level is right?

Take the free 10-minute spelling
assessment at
expectededucation.co.uk/spelling