Different Ways to Sort Your Spelling Words

DIRECTIONS: Remember to keep your weekly words for each sort together so, that you can easily do these sorts. Also, fill out the information on your Weekly Spelling Sheet each day.

How to do a Regular Word Sort
1. Get a helper (parent, counselor, sibling, etc.)
2. Take your envelope with the words and labels.
3. Read all of your words out loud to your helper.
4. Ask a question if you don’t know a word.
5. Think about the sounds and spelling.
6. Put the labels down for each category.
7. Next, sort the words into their categories by placing them into columns below their headings.
8. Read the words aloud to check.
9. Ask your helper or a partner to check them.
10. Practice until you get it perfect.
11. Put your words back in the envelope.

How to do a Blind Sort - Written
1. Find a partner or helper.
2. Get a piece of notebook paper.
3. Fold your paper to create columns.
4. Write the headings for your categories on the top of the column.
5. Turn away from your partner/helper.
6. Ask your partner to select 10 or 12 words.
7. Next, your partner/helper reads the words aloud.
8. When he or she reads the word, you write it in the correct column in your on your paper.
9. When you finish, check the words for correct spelling and that they are in the correct column.
10. Practice any words you misspelled or put in the wrong column.
How to do a Blind Sort - Orally
1. Find a partner or helper.
2. Sort the words in front of your partner/helper.
3. Take the labels from your sort and put them in front of you.
4. Turn away from your partner/helper.
5. Next, have them read a word aloud.
6. After he or she reads the word, you tell them what label it should be under and spell the work.
7. Do 10 – 12 words and check each for correct spelling and that the label is correct.
8. Practice any words you misspelled or put in the wrong column.

How to do a Speed Sort
1. Take out your words.
2. Shuffle the words.
3. Get a watch or timer ready.
4. Set it to zero.
5. Press start and begin sorting your words.
7. Record your time.
8. Try again to see if you can get a better time.
9. Record your new time and calculate the difference.
10. Put your words back in the envelope.

How to do a Pattern Hunt
1. Decide if you are going to work alone or with a partner.
2. Use the Words Their Way – Pattern Hunt worksheet or notebook paper.
3. Search for words in books, magazines, newspapers, etc., or think of other words that fit your patterns.
4. Write the new words under the pattern heading.
5. Write as many words as you can under each heading.
6. On the back of your paper list places where you found the words, your reading book, the magazine, the newspaper, etc.