



God has made us in such a way that we learn best by using a variety of senses, such as seeing, hearing, saying, and touching. Seeing the words, hearing the words, spelling aloud the words, shaping the letters as the words are written with a pen, all these senses work to help the brain memorize the spelling of the words. Spelling the words out loud helps the mind to memorize the spelling. After spelling the word aloud, or listening to the word spelled aloud, the student needs to write the word without looking at the word.

If you would like to have your student simply write the words straight from the list or write the words in alphabetical order, which is what we recommend on Day 4, please go to our website at www.setonhome.org. Click on My Seton, then Log on, then click on Courses, and then scroll down to Spelling. Move your cursor to the yellow notebook icon on the right for Course Resources. We provide a blank page with lines for your student to write the spelling words in alphabetical order, or in the order as the words appear in the list. We also provide lines for words to be written according to the number of syllables. We hope to add crossword puzzles for the spelling lists.

Most students automatically pick up the spelling of the words once they read and understand the rules relating the letters to the sound. It is up to you, the parent, to decide if your student needs to memorize the rule, or can simply study the rule and thereby is able to spell the words.

The Story Time reading gives Seton the opportunity to present a Catholic aspect to our spelling lessons, but we admit that sometimes we are not able to find many spelling words which fit the story. In many cases, the underlined words follow the spelling pattern, but may not be included in the spelling list.

At the end of the book, you will see we have included the Answer Key for the Spelling exercises in the workbook. You may want to remove this key. You will notice some blank pages which can be used for notes.

The First Quarter includes Lessons 1 to 8, followed by two pages of all the spelling words from the First Quarter for review in Lesson 9. The Second Quarter includes Lessons 10 to 17, followed by two pages of all the spelling words from the Second Quarter for review in Lesson 18. The Third Quarter includes Lessons 19 to 26, followed by two pages of all the spelling words from the Third Quarter for review in Lesson 27. The Fourth Quarter includes lessons 28 to 35, followed by two pages of all the spelling words from the Fourth Quarter for review in Lesson 36.

At the end of each weekly lesson, a weekly spelling test should be given by the words being dictated to the student. The grade may be included on the appropriate quarter report form in Section A.

At the end of each quarter, the quarterly spelling test words in these lesson plans should be dictated for an end of quarter spelling test. You may mail your student's test spelling words with the quarter report form. However, if you choose, you may send the test to Seton over the internet. Simply go to the Seton web site at www.setonhome.org. Click on My Seton, then Log on, then click on Courses, then scroll down to Spelling. Move your cursor to the red-sleeved hand icon on the right, for "Send (upload) work to Seton."

We recommend that students have a dictionary. The biggest secret of excellent spellers is that they have a dictionary on their desk, or not farther than arms' length. Good students know the importance of using a dictionary to help them with both spelling and the meaning of words. The Seton SEM department sells the *Merriam-Webster Intermediate Dictionary*. Go to our website at www.setonhome.org, and click on Book Catalog to find the dictionaries. Consider purchasing a thesaurus, also!

INTEGRATING SPELLING WITH OTHER SUBJECTS

After reviewing the basic spelling rule and word pattern taught in each lesson, you may want to apply these spelling lessons to words from other subjects. As the textbooks are read in history or science or reading during this week, the student could take a second look at words which follow the spelling rule for the week.

COUNSELORS AVAILABLE FOR ENROLLED FAMILIES

If you have any questions, please call or email a Seton elementary counselor.