

# Help your child to master the KS1 common exception words (CEW)...

## Benefits of Learning Common Exception Words

### Builds Reading Fluency:

- These words appear very often in books and sentences.
- If children can recognise them quickly, they read more smoothly and confidently.

### Supports Writing:

- Many of these words don't follow usual phonics rules (e.g. said, because, busy).
- Knowing how to spell them means children can write sentences without getting stuck.

### Boosts Confidence:

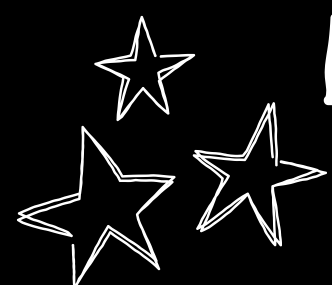
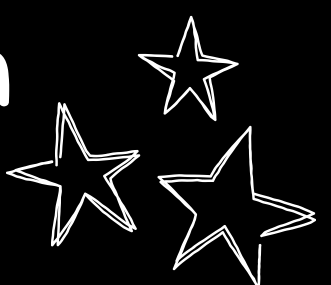
- Being able to read and spell "tricky words" helps children feel successful and proud of their progress.

### Improves Comprehension:

- When children don't have to stop and puzzle over these common words, they can focus on understanding the story or text.

### Foundation for Future Learning:

- Mastery of these words in Years 1 and 2 provides a strong base for more complex reading and writing in Key Stage 2.

 Learning these words helps children read with ease, write with independence, and grow in confidence as young learners. 

# Ideas to try... quick games & activities

## 1. Word Snap

- Write pairs of common exception words on cards.
- Play "snap" – children must read the word aloud when they see a match

## 2. Spelling Dice 🎲

- Roll a dice:
- 1 = say the word
- 2 = clap the letters
- 3 = write it in the air
- 4 = write it normally
- 5 = make a silly sentence with it
- 6 = write it with your eyes closed!

## 3. Word Race 🏁

- Say a tricky word aloud.
- Two children (or child + adult) race to write it down correctly.

## 4. Rainbow Write Relay 🌈

- Write the word once in pencil, then go over it in 3 different colours.
- Say it aloud each time.

## 5. Word Builder 📏

- Use magnetic letters, letter tiles, or Scrabble pieces to build the words

## 6. Missing Letters ?

- Write the word but leave out one or two letters (e.g., \_eople).
- Child fills in the missing parts.

## 7. Word Hopscotch ○

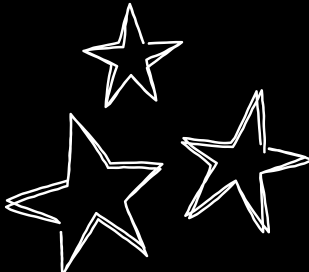
- Write words in chalk outside.
- Jump on each word while saying/spelling it aloud.

## 8. Word Detective 🔍

- Hide tricky words around the house/room.
- Each time a child finds one, they must read it and write it down.

## 9. Spelling Stomp 🦶

- Say a word aloud.
- Child stomps each letter on the floor as they spell it.

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Year

1

C

E

W

the	they	one	is	here
a	be	once	his	there
do	he	ask	has	where
to	we	school	I	love
today	me	friend	go	push
of	she	put	so	pull
said	no	are	you	full
says	come	were	by	house
your	some	was	my	our

Year

2

C

E

W

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