

Dictated Sentences - instructions

- Before beginning this work, please talk with your child about sentences.
- Remind them that a statement sentence ends with a full stop and tell us something; it gives us information.
- Remind them that a question sentence asks us something and needs to be answered. It ends with a question mark.
- Tell your child that today's sentences will have a mixture of statement and question sentences and so they have to decide which punctuation to use at the end - a full stop or a question mark?
- Additionally, remind your child that all sentences begin with a capital letter. Also, remind them that names and the days of the week begin with a capital letter too. Please use the letter formation mat in week 4's work if your child needs reminders on how to form any of their lowercase or uppercase letters.

- Using the sentences below, read the first sentence to your child. Then ask your child to repeat the sentence back to you and count the words on their fingers. Ask them to repeat it back to you 2-3 times, you can say it together. Then, ask your child to write the sentence.
- **Do not let your child use the phoneme mat for this activity**, as this is your child's opportunity to see if they can spell the words independently and also allows you to see if your child is secure with the spelling of these words. Your child should be able to spell all the words that have been put in the sentences. However, don't worry if they find some of them tricky, this just means they need more practise.
- Remind your child to form their letters carefully as they have been shown in school. Also, remind them to use their knowledge of phonics to help them spell. If they are unsure of how to spell a word ask them to chop it up into phonemes (sounds) to help them spell it. Once written, remind them to check that they have used capital letters correctly and added a full stop (or question mark - if appropriate) at the end of their sentence. Ask them to read their sentence out loud to ensure it makes sense.
- Then, move onto the second sentence. Keep repeating this until all the sentences have been written.

After the sentences are written.

- Remember to praise your child's efforts, as they will have worked hard to complete their sentences. Say what you like about their work. Have they used their best handwriting? Or made an improvement in the way they form a certain letter? Have they remembered to use finger spaces? Have they spelt certain words correctly? Did they remember all their full stops (or question marks)? Did they remember to use capital letters correctly? Find the things that have been done well and comment on them.
- Then, pick out between 3 and 5 words that have been spelt incorrectly and show your child the correct spelling. Ask them to practise these words at least 5 times each. They should concentrate to help them remember the correct spelling next time.

Sentences to be dictated.

Philip went to the zoo and saw the dolphins.

Can you say all the letters in the alphabet?

They tried to spell the new words in phonics.

Clair looked at the elephant in the book first.

Did you brush your hair on Tuesday?