

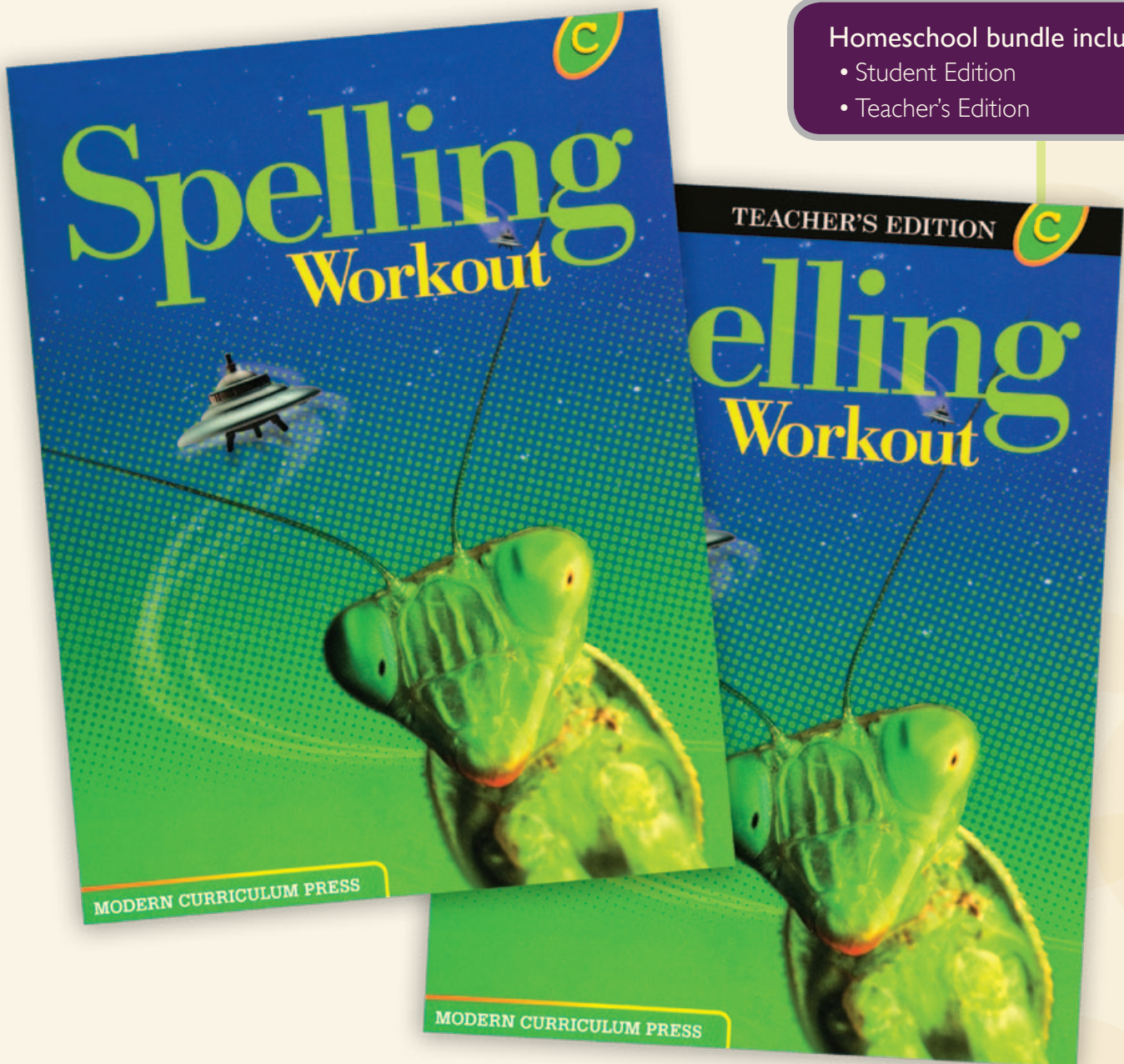
P A R E N T G U I D E



Spelling Workout

Homeschool bundle includes:

- Student Edition
- Teacher's Edition



Because You Know What Matters Most



Thank you for choosing Pearson to help you on your homeschool journey. Making the right decision about homeschooling can set your child on an exciting path to a lifetime of learning and success. Pearson makes it easy for you to inspire a joy of learning with flexible programs to fit your child's unique learning style. This built-in flexibility lets you set the schedule and the pace that works for you and your child. As you read through this guide and review the included materials, you'll experience how easy it is to personalize the curriculum to match your child's learning style and ensure success with our engaging programs.

Plus, you can rest assured that all of the fundamentals for success are included. The homeschool curriculum you have chosen has been thoughtfully developed and tested by seasoned professionals, to make sure your child receives the finest education.

Welcome to Pearson Homeschool!

Preparation

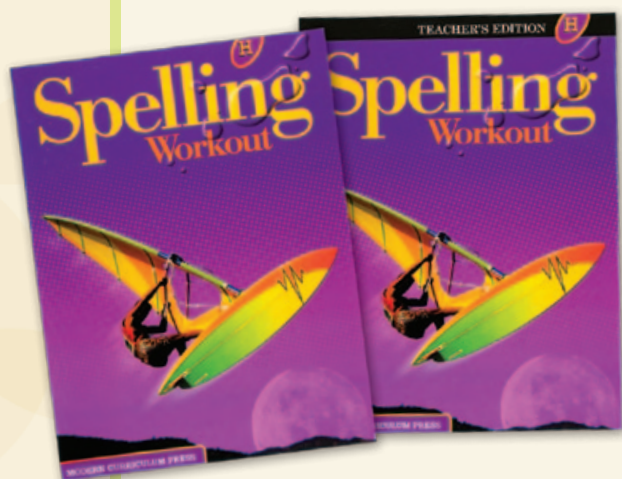
It is always an exciting time when you get to open the box with your new curriculum. All of the books and materials are colorful, the pages are crisp and they are filled with the possibilities of the coming year. The anticipation of using the books and teaching your child is new and fresh. Like the air after a spring shower, it is invigorating. You can't wait until you can get started.

Open the bundle of materials, flip through the pages of each book, take in how they look and feel. Get familiar with all of the components. Let your child share in the excitement and catch the enthusiasm you have for starting this new adventure. These will be your companions over the course of the next year.

Once you get familiar with the material, you may experience the overwhelming feeling that is common to homeschool parents: "How will I ever cover all of this material?" You may be flooded with insecurities that you don't know or remember the subject or content. All of these are normal thoughts and experiences for anyone who has homeschooled.

Remember the value of the journey you are on. Focus on the reasons you chose to homeschool in the first place, the daily interaction with your child, and teaching them how to learn. As the tutor, you as the parent don't have to know all of the material. It's fine to learn it with your child as you go through the material together. You are the guide for your child as you journey with them through the learning process.





Overview

The *Spelling Workout* homeschool bundle includes the following components:

- Student Edition
- Teacher's Edition

Spelling Workout treats spelling as a developmental process. Children progress in stages from simple sound/letter relationships, to learning more complex word-structure patterns. Books A through G in the *Spelling Workout* series target grades 1 through 8 respectively. The primary levels have a strong phonics base, while the upper grades shift toward study of word origins and vocabulary. Guided instruction is the key in the early levels; upper levels of the program lead into self-guided, independent study.

The *Spelling Workout* series will engage your child in cross-curricular reading passages that develop key spelling words. It provides spelling practice through riddles, puzzles, interactive activities and reviews, and reinforces what has been learned throughout. The *Spelling Workout* program utilizes a test-study method of teaching spelling. Your child will first take a pretest of words that have not been introduced. Then, under your direction, your child self-corrects the test, rewriting correctly any word that has been missed. This approach not only provides an opportunity to determine how many words your child can already spell, but also allows them to analyze spelling mistakes. In the process they also discover patterns that make it easier to spell words. Your child will study the words as they work through practice exercises, and then reassess their spelling by taking a final test. The words used in *Spelling Workout* have been chosen for their frequency in written and oral vocabularies, their relationships to subject areas, and for structural, as well as phonetic generalizations.



Using the Materials

Pearson curriculum materials are thoughtfully planned to present the subject in a way that is engaging. Each lesson builds upon itself, but provides flexibility so you can make it your own.



Using the Student Edition

The *Student Edition* begins with a short article to capture your child's attention. The lesson's spelling words are then presented in the List Words section, along with a related spelling tip. After reading the introduction, your child will work on the Spelling Practice exercise. Additional activities follow - exercises, riddles, and puzzles to review the lesson's skills. The lesson ends with a wrap-up and review exercises, to assess your child's comprehension on the material covered. Every few lessons your child is also presented with a cumulative review.

Using the Teacher's Edition

The *Teacher's Edition* provides everything needed to deliver complete instruction to your child. The *Teacher's Edition* begins by reviewing the *Spelling Workout* lesson format. The pacing is covered next - the lessons are flexible to adapt to either a 3- or 5-day week. The book also offers activities for reinforcing and analyzing spelling patterns and ideas. The heart of the *Teacher's Edition* is the lesson plans that present the course content you will teach to your child. The 2-page lesson plan is presented in the margins, around a reduced version of the *Student Edition*, annotated with the exercise answers. Finally, the back of your *Teacher's Edition* includes a dictionary, similar to the one in the *Student Edition*.



Lesson Plans

Lesson plans are important to a successful homeschool environment. They help keep you on track, progress through the material and provide a steady structure for teaching your child. It is important to plan out your lessons but remember - lesson plans are a guide. You should leave room to adapt to your child and adjust the plan to ensure he or she understands the material. The objective is to have a tool you can use to watch your child progress and master the material you present over the course.

Before you begin your lesson plan, review the materials to see how they are structured. Use this as a guide to help you evaluate and formulate your lesson plan for the coming year. Additionally, there are a number of items to consider when preparing your plan. How many days per week will you have school? Do you plan to have extended breaks for the holidays or vacations? The number of children you have and their ages will affect how and what you can do as well. Lesson plans in general should have certain vital components. A suggested list would include some or all of the following:

- the portion of text covered during the lesson
- key concepts
- activities to do
- assignments given
- main ideas of the lesson
- questions to ask
- potential field trip ideas
- materials and resources needed

The *Teacher's Edition* includes lesson plans for the course, presented in a convenient 2-page layout for easy reference. The program is presented across 36 weekly lessons and has all of the components you need to lead your child from simple sound-letter relationships to more complex spelling patterns.

The lesson plans begin by highlighting the objective of the topic. Your child will begin each lesson with Spelling Words in Action, an engaging and informative reading selection that illustrates the spelling words in context. At the bottom of this passage is a highlighted box with questions for your child to consider after reading the passage. The notes in the margin of the *Teacher's Edition* provide the instructional guidance. Then, administer the warm up test by reading the dictation sentences, and having your child spell each bold word.

Next, your child will work through the exercises. Follow along with the teaching notes in the margins of your *Teacher's Edition* to present the material to your child. Introduce the List Words and help your child with the spelling practice exercises. Use the Spelling Strategy section to guide your child as they evaluate the lesson's spelling words. For additional practice, incorporate the Writer's Corner section for additional ideas to personalize learning to further engage your child. Finally, give the Final Test by reading the sentences to your child and having them spell the bold words they learned within the lesson.

As you plan out your lessons, be sure to familiarize yourself with any legal requirements you may have in your local area or state. The Pearson Homeschool website (PearsonHomeschool.com) has links to each state Department of Education so that you may review the laws and how to comply with them.

Adapt the Curriculum

One of the great benefits of homeschooling is that you know the instruction is personal. Everything you teach will be personalized to fit your child. The *Spelling Workout* program lessons are easy to pace, and offer enrichment activities and additional support when necessary.

Pacing

As you progress through the material you will find that your child grasps certain lessons with ease, while needing more time and practice on other sections. Adapt your pace accordingly. You can progress faster if your child comprehends the material quickly and assign less practice when you are confident that he or she has an understanding of the material. On the other hand, if more time is required, it's easy to slow the pace down a bit. It's more important to ensure understanding and evolve to your child's pace, than simply move through the material at a predetermined pace. This will allow you to keep your child engaged and interested.

Teaching is Everywhere

Another part of the homeschooling benefit is that teaching can occur all of the time. Use opportunities throughout the day to reinforce and maintain spellings skills by integrating spelling with other curriculum. Point out spelling words in books, texts, and your child's own writing. Plan a field trip to the library and encourage your child to write sentences from his or her favorite book, while practicing their spelling. Additionally, you can tie the lessons into your child's interests and hobbies. Have them use the lesson's spelling words to write stories about their activities or interests.

Conflicting Materials

Any homeschool parent will be faced with the dilemma of what to do when you come across material in the curriculum you don't like, or that you disagree with. While no curriculum will ever be able to satisfy all the beliefs, opinions or values held by each family, there are several approaches that you can take in these situations.

One approach is to skip over the material in question. Another suggestion would be to use this as an opportunity for a special teachable moment. Review the material with your child. Discuss your feelings about the material, idea or value presented. Take the opportunity to prepare your child for the diversity of thought/opinion in the world and the need to be discerning of principles and ideas that may challenge yours.

There is a definite balance between having the freedom that homeschool brings and the responsibility you assume in educating your child. The good news is that most families find that balance and it works for them.

Thank you

As you progress along the journey, you will have moments of frustration and moments that make it all worthwhile. Remember to keep it in perspective. Homeschool parents live for those moments when their children are most teachable. You will know when those moments happen as you can see the light go on, they really get it. Cherish those times and use them as the fuel to motivate you through the tough times.

Thank you for choosing Pearson as a partner in your homeschool journey. We know the importance that you place in taking the time to teach your child and we appreciate your trust in us to help you and your child achieve the best education possible.



Additional Resources

Spelling Workout can be used in conjunction with other reading, spelling, and vocabulary programs, and is correlated to MCP "Plaid" Phonics with corresponding lessons highlighted at the top of each lesson plan.



- **MCP "Plaid" Phonics** – Workbook-type program that presents skills in a systematic and direct manner. Follows a teach-practice-apply format.



- **Words Their Way™: Word Study in Action** – This powerful approach to word study encourages a close look at words to discover the regularities and conventions of written English needed to read and spell.

For additional programs to support your child's Language Arts curriculum, please visit our website at:

www.PearsonHomeschool.com

For product related questions, please contact 1-800-848-9500 or submit the Contact Us form available on our website.

ISBN-13: 978-0-328-72459-8
ISBN-10: 0-328-72459-9



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