

# What Research Says About Spelling Instruction

Presented By

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# What Research Says about Spelling Instruction

Introduction

Spelling Must Be Taught

Spelling Most Researched Subject

Elements of Successful Spelling Program

# Spelling Must be Taught



Poor spelling gives negative impression

Very Few are natural born spellers

Spell Checkers do not eliminate need



## Ode to the Spell Czecher

Author Unknown

I have a spelling checker. It came with my PC.  
It plane lee marks four my revue  
Miss steaks aye can knot see.

Eye ran this poem threw it. Your sure real glad two no.  
Its very polished in its weigh, My checker tolled me sew.  
A checker is a blessing. It freeze yew lodes of thyme.  
It helps me right awl stiles two reed, And aides me when aye rime.

Each frays comes posed up on my screen eye trussed too bee a joule.  
The checker pours o'er every word  
To cheque sum spelling rule.

Bee fore a veiling checkers hour spelling mite decline,  
And if were laks oar have a laps,  
We wood bee maid too wine.

Butt now bee cause my spelling is checked with such grate flare,  
There are know faults with in my cite,  
Of none eye am a wear.

Now spelling does not phase me, it does knot bring a tier.  
My pay purrs awl due glad den  
With wrapped words fare as hear.

To rite with care is quite a feet of witch won should be proud,  
And wee mused dew the best wee can,  
Sew flaws are knot aloud.

Sow ewe can sea why aye dew prays such soft wear four pea seas,  
And why eye brake in two averse  
Buy righting want too please.

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# Spelling Most Researched Subject

There has been dissatisfaction with spelling since 1300's

The most effective approaches hotly debated just as long

## Webster's Blue-Backed Speller

First to teach standardized spellings

Learn hard words to stretch mind

Master before end of grade eight

## Current Approaches

Experiential approach

Phonics and rule driven approach








High frequency word lists

Lack of application of research is current concern

Curriculum Developers

Classroom Practices

# Spelling Instructional Objectives

-  *The student will understand the importance of accurate spelling as an aid to his reader's understanding of what he has written. He will appreciate accurate spelling as a common courtesy to his reader.*
-  *The student will be able to accurately spell the 5,000 most frequently used American English words.*
-  *The student will be able to accurately spell the words he uses on a regular basis.*
-  *The student will learn the most effective way to study a word, so that he can continue to build his spelling vocabulary throughout his lifetime.*
-  *The student will understand and apply spelling rules and phonetic principles when attempting to spell unfamiliar words.*
-  *The student will establish the habit of effectively using spelling resources, such as the dictionary.*
-  *The student will establish the habit of using effective proofreading skills on all writing he intends others to read.*



# **3 Essential Elements of Successful Spelling Programs**

Experience with Words

Teach Spelling Skills

Phonetic principles  
Spelling rules  
Related skills


Mastery of a Core Vocabulary

# Creativity Flows with Mastery of Basic Skills



To be able to spell with confidence eases the task of putting thoughts on paper. This confidence frees the writer to concentrate more fully on organizing his ideas, thus increasing his capacity for self-expression





# Phonetic Principles and Spelling Rules must be Taught

## Phonetic principles need regular reviewing

Phonics for reading and spelling are different

Aprox. 44 basic sounds and 250 spellings

Vowel Sounds are most unstable

Silent letters and Unusual Sounds

## Spelling rules which should be taught

Some rules have more exceptions than applications

Research has found there are about 47 rules

Homophones & Homographs

## Other skills essential to accurate spelling

Grammar Related Rules

Proofreading

Dictionary Use

# Phonic Analysis of 17,310 Words

49% Regular Sound-Symbol Relationship\*  
(can, cane, jar, jaw)

37% Structural Derivatives\*  
(use, sues, useful, misuse)

11% Contextual Spellings  
(homonyms: sail, sale)

3% Nonstandard Spellings

\*words having at least one part which followed these principles were counted in the total

Hanna, Paul R.; Hodges, Richard E.; & Hanna, Jean S. *Phoneme-Grapheme Correspondences as Cues to Spelling Improvement*, Washington DC: Government Printing Office, U.S. Office of Education, 1966



# Mastery of a Core Vocabulary Required for Fluency

## Core Spelling Needs are Predictable

4 - 5000 words 97% of time

Adult and children's vocabulary similar

Above core spelling needs are very individual

## What to look for in word lists?

Grade placement vs. high frequency

Reading lists vs. writing lists

Age of lists a factor

## What is a flow-word list?

Individualized

Self-Pacing

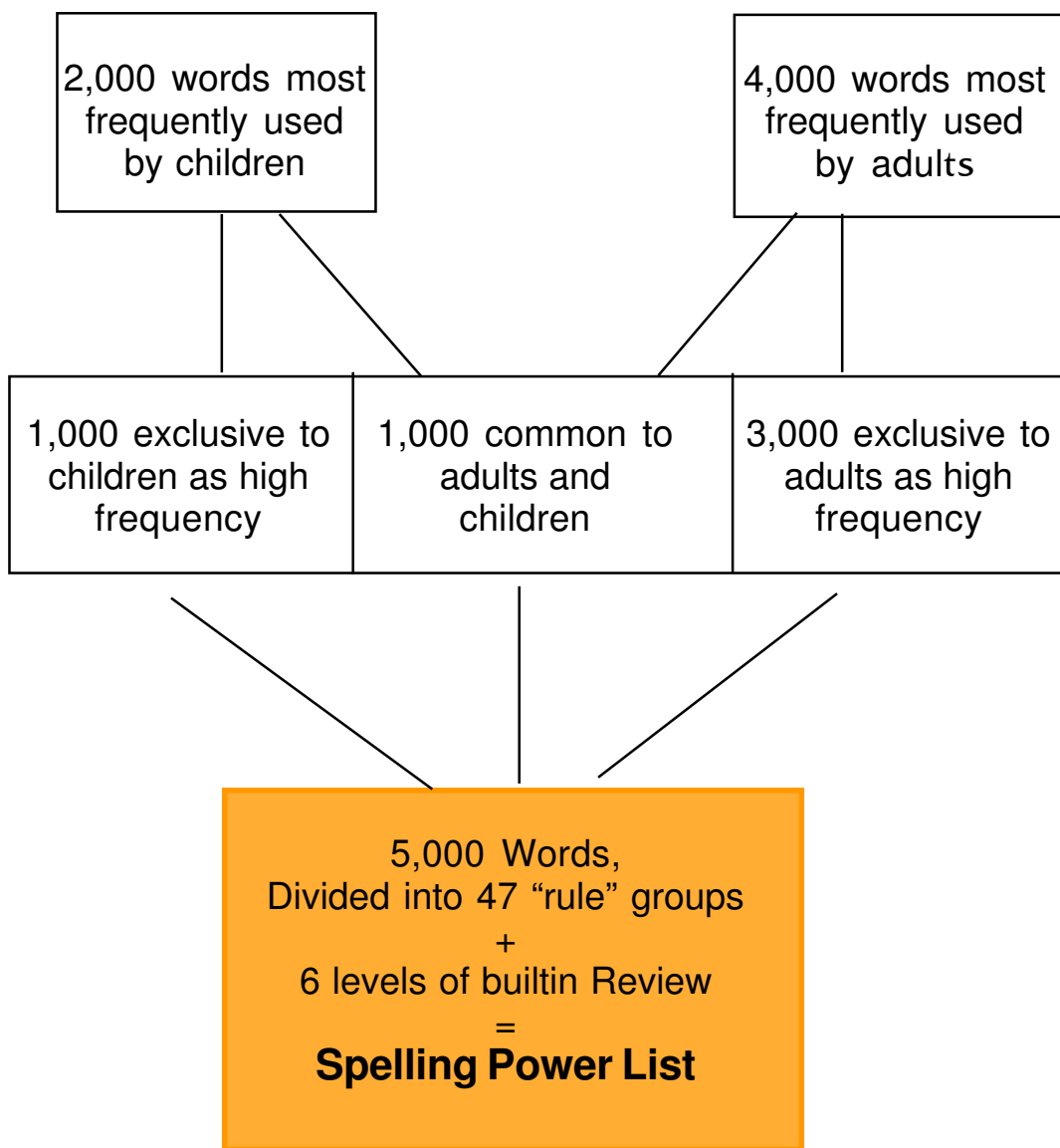
Built In Review



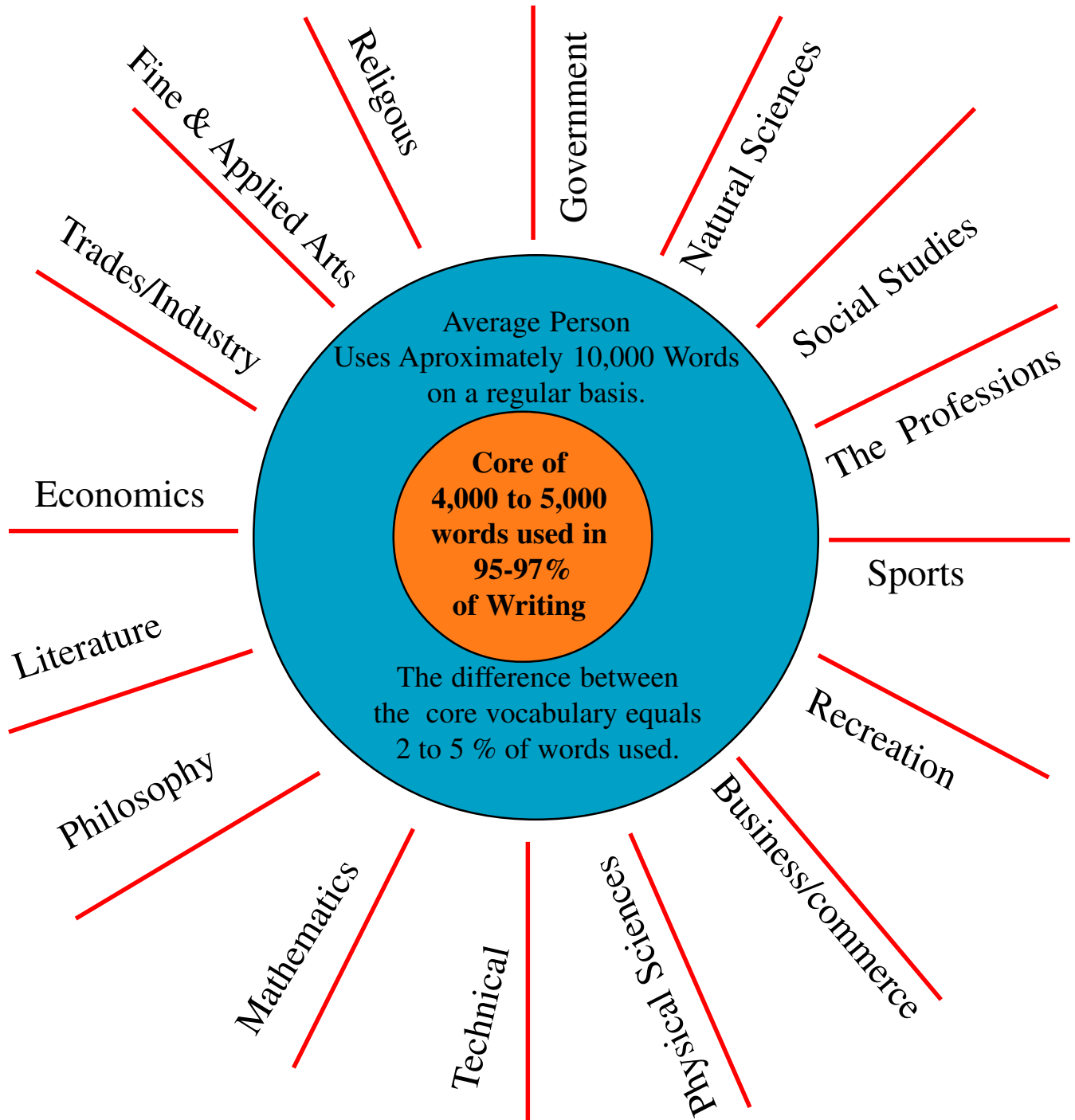
# Frequency of Word Use

Number of Words	Percent of Use	Percent Gain in use per thousand words
10	25%	
100	60%	
500	82%	
1000	89%	89%
2000	95%	6%
3000	97%	2%
4000	98%	1%

# Child vs Adults Needs



# 600,000



# English Words



# Mastery of a Core Vocabulary Required for Fluency

## Core Spelling Needs are Predictable

Use 4 - 5000 words 97% of time

Adult and children's vocabulary similar

Above core spelling needs usage is very individual

## What to Look for in Word Lists?

High frequency vs. Grade placement

Writing lists vs. Reading lists

Age of lists a factor

## What is a Flow-word List?

Individualized

Self-Pacing

Built In Review

# 10 Keys To Effective Instruction



1. Appropriate Placement

2. Individualized Pace & Progress

3. Teaching Subject Specific Skills

Tool Subjects vs. Cultural Subjects

4. Multi-Sensory Approach

5. Encourage Self-Correction

6. Experience Centered Curriculum

Provide Purpose to Lessons and Assignments

Base Grammar & Usage Lessons on Student Writing Needs

Test-study-test for Spelling with students Above Eight

7. Consistency In Approach and Application

8. Inductive & Deductive Approaches

Deductive teaching is telling

Inductive teaching guides student to discovery

9. Repeated, Spaced Review

10. Student Motivation



# Multi-Sensory Teaching

**Visual**

**Auditory**

**Tactile**

**Kinesthetic**

**Olfactory**

**Learning Style Theory vs. Modality**

# 10 Ways To Motivate Students

1. Develop interest in subject (e.g. words)
2. Build trust in approach
3. Limit study to students' needs
4. Arrange for opportunity for success
5. Teach definite & efficient study methods
6. Provide knowledge of results
7. Emphasize individual progress
8. Exhibit positive teacher attitude
9. Allow for interaction and socialization
10. Establish consistent methodology

# Section 1

## Questions ?

For Further Information please contact:

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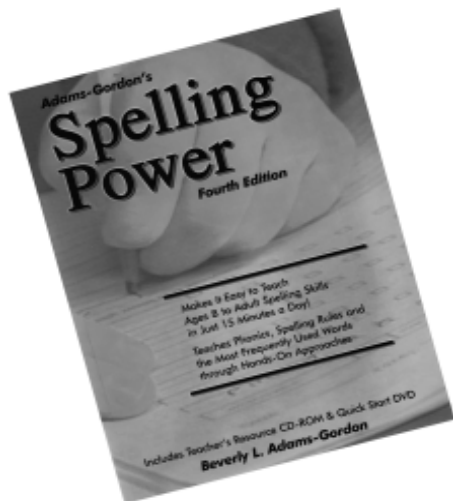
[www.spellingpower.com](http://www.spellingpower.com)

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# Spelling

## To Give Your Students Spelling Power . . .

### All You Need is 15 Minutes a Day & This Book!



Since 1994, Adams-Gordon's Spelling Power, the award-winning program that teaches solid back-to-basic spelling skills, has given home educators the perfect way to teach comprehensive spelling skills to all. It now features 21<sup>st</sup> century technology.

Even if you are new to teaching, you'll find that Spelling Power's all new, easy-to-understand Quick Start Steps and the included Quick Start DVD Seminar will help you give each of your students Spelling Power in just 15 minutes per day!

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Order #33734-E1 . . . . . \$64.95

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Note: Canadian/British alternate spellings appear in brackets behind the American spellings on the word lists (for example: color [colour]. making it possible for non-American spellers to use Adams-Gordon's Spelling Power.

When your student uses Adams-Gordon's Spelling Power he will...

- use solid, research-proven, multi-sensory approaches
- master the 5,000 most frequently used words through six levels of built-in review
- review phonetic principles and spelling rules using spiral curriculum approach
- learn to carefully proofread his own writing
- practice careful, regular use of dictionary skills
- succeed whether a regular, special needs, or gifted student!

Teacher's Resource CD-ROM makes your job easier...

- Every form and resource printable from home computer.
- Searchable List selecting words to review from writing.
- Charts provided for all 47 Group Rules.
- Printable Activity Task Cards.
- New bonus skill-building activities aid learning.
- Students love the included Spelling Power Digital Tutor. Digital Tutor offers students fun, yet powerful drill...
- Allows parent to create custom lists for each child.
- Offers learn, drill, and test activities for each word list.
- Tracks multiple children's progress as they master words.
- Provides printable progress reports.
- Use during skill-building activity time for drill.
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century tool that makes spelling drill fun.

Quick Start DVD Seminar

- Step-by-step guide to using the Spelling Power program.
- Shows real home school families using the program.
  - Reflects changes made in the New 4th Edition..
  - DVD's chapter feature makes reviewing steps easy.
  - Features author Beverly L. Adams-Gordon.
  - High Quality Photography & Graphics.

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Every Year  
Since 1998!*



## Spelling Power Activity Task Cards

Spelling Power Activity Task Cards give you 365 ways to make spelling easy-to-teach and easy-to-learn. Used during the five minute "activity time," the handy Teacher's Guide can help you virtually eliminate lesson planning while you help your student to master spelling words and strengthen language arts skills. Just like Spelling Power, the Activity Task Cards box covers interest and ability levels ranging from eight years old to adult level. You will find the Task Card box easy to use, since every card is color-coded by ability-interest level. Each instructional activity requires just five to ten minutes for students to complete on their own. The Activity Task Cards require little or no teacher involvement and can be used with any spelling program.

Order: 21017-E1 . . . . . \$ 29.95

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Free User Helpline!**

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For one low price you get the Spelling Power teacher's manual, the Teacher's Resource CD-ROM, and the Quick Start DVD Seminar. This one curriculum package is all you need to teach all of your students spelling for a lifetime.

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## Student Record Books Save Time & Money

Spelling Power calls for the use of two different forms daily, as well as a number of forms on a level-by-level basis. These forms are integral to the program. While masters for these forms are found in the manual, these Student Record Books are handy and cost effective. Each Spelling Power Student Record Book provides enough forms for one student to master the words on a Spelling Power level. Conveniently bound, with all forms printed in light blue so the student's own handwriting stands out.

### Selecting Right the Student Record Book

Student Record Books are available in four sizes of lines. Below you will find a sample of the line size for each of the color-coded Student Record Books. Select the line size appropriate for your student's "natural" writing size.

#### Blue Student Record Book

1/2" for 2-4th

Order: 21321-E1 .. \$5.95



#### Green Student Record Book

3/8" for 4-6th

Order: 21322-E1 .. \$5.95



#### Yellow Student Record Book

No mid-line — 6th & up

Order: 21323-E1.. \$5.95



## Update your Spelling Power 3rd & 10th Anniversary Eds. with these Resources:

(Note: These resources are included with 4th ed. Spelling Power manuals.)

### Resource CD-ROM

This Add-on CD-ROM for the Spelling Power Program includes: Printable forms needed, Ready-to-Print task cards, Word lists penmanship sheets, Charts of the 47 Spelling Rules, and more

These CD-ROMs were included in the 10th Anniversary editions of Spelling Power. We are making them available to owners of earlier editions for a small cost to cover shipping and handling.

Order: 14926-E1 ... \$4.95

### Quick Start DVD

This DVD-seminar, presented by author Beverly L. Adams-Gordon, focuses on the basic approach to daily spelling sessions using the 3rd Edition or 10th Anniversary Edition of Spelling Power. You'll be guided step-by-step through the key aspects of the program. After watching this DVD seminar you will be able to start using the Spelling Power program with little or no advanced preparation.

Order: 14926-E1 ... \$9.95

## Hands-On Spelling Aids



A great tool for beginning spellers who are hands-on learners! This unique component system allows student to manipulate letters without the stress of worrying about handwriting. Spelling Kit contains 144 magnetic 3/4" letters for composing 3- and 4- letter words. Includes both capitals and lower case with the vowels in red and the consonants blue. Use with many of Spelling Power's Activity Task Cards (see facing page). All kits come in a handy 3-hole punched storage case. Part of an expandable system, see our website for details.  
Order #: 22012-E1 ..... \$9.00

### Add-on Magnetic Learning Sets

Use these kits to add to your spelling kit. The kits work together and are great for more advanced spellers!

Phonics Kit: 88 magnets, Digraphs & blends, 3/4" Red vowels, blue consonants, Silent "E" endings, Short vowels, Long vowels, Storage case

Order #: 22014-E1 \$9.00

Wordbuilders Kit contains 83 magnetic components covering: word families, rhyming words, suffixes, and prefixes. Like other kits in this series, vowels are red and consonants are blue.



### Tri-fold Magnetic Wipe-off Board

This handy magnetic board (11x23") unfolds to reveal ample space to practice spelling words with magnetic letters or with a wipe-off pen. Actual board has a white surface.

Order #: 22017-E1 ..... \$14.00

Order: 22013-E1 ..... \$9.00

### Magnetic Binder Wipe-off Page

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Order  
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SpellingPower.com