

Spotting Vowels by Joanne Rudling from www.howtospell.co.uk

This chapter is taken from my book: *Spelling Tricks and Rules for 3rd-4th Graders: To Learn, Improve, & Have Fun with Spelling* ISBN: 9781082206801 [Available from amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)
Feel free to use it in your classroom, or with your kids, or adapt it for adults.

- Spotting vowels is a great strategy, especially for dyslexics.
- Use colors to highlight the vowels.

excellent, **r**em**e**mber, **r**ecent, **s**entence, **t**here**f**ore, **e**xtreme, **c**enter
believe, **e**xperience, **e**xperiment, **e**xercise, **c**omplete, **d**ifferent, **d**eceive
grammar, **c**alendar, **n**atural, **s**eparate, **i**nterest
decide, **d**escribe, **m**edicine
opposite, **p**osition, **p**otato/potatoes
difficult, **d**ivision
museum



This is just one of many useful spelling strategies to help you. If you love it, or find it helpful, then please use it. You can use it in combination with the other strategies we're going to look at.

- Do some word art for these words and use colors for the vowels.

→ Sometimes, the meaning of a word can give us a clue to the vowel letter patterns:



beech or beach?

A beech is a tree. / A beach is by the sea.



→ Use memory tricks for difficult vowel patterns:

because — Because you need to always understand.

believe — Do you believe I exist?

thought — I thought of you.

build — You and I build a house.



Color in the tricky vowels: ↷

bec__ __se

bel__ __ve

th__ __ght

b__ __ld

Exercise

1. Can you guess these words without the vowels?
2. Now add the vowels.
3. Check on the next page to see if you're right.

r__m__mb__r, r__c__nt, s__nt__nc__, c__nt__r, __xtr__m__

gr__mm__r, d__c__d__, c__l__nd__r, __pp__s__te

d__ff__c__lt, d__ff__r__nt, th__r__for__, __nt__r__st

n__t__r__l, s__p__r__t__, m__d__c__n__, __xp__r__nc__

Bec__ __se you need to __lways __nderstand. I th__ __ght __f yo__.

Do you bel__ __ve __ __xist? Yo__ and __ b__ __ld a house.

Answers

remember, recent, sentence, center, extreme,
grammar, decide, calendar, opposite,
difficult, different, therefore, interest,
natural, separate, medicine, experience.

Because you need to always understand. I thought of you.

Do you believe I exist? You and I build a house.

- Rewrite these again in your notebook using different colors for the different vowels.
- Get your friend or parent to give you a spelling test with these. Or record them and test yourself.