

Maple Class, Year 5 Spelling, 26th January 2026

Learning Objective: words with -ei-.

Success Criteria:

- I will know a range of ways to learn my spellings.
- I will be able to identify what is difficult to remember in one of these words and use a strategy that helps me most to help learn it.

Rule: Use the **mnemonic** *i before e except after c* – when the -ei is pronounced -ee- as in sheep.

**This mnemonic is not reliable when applying it to unfamiliar words with a similar pattern.
Use it only for this week's words.**

Look	Trace	Copy 1	Copy 2
ceiling	ceiling		
conceit	conceit		
conceive	conceive		
deceit	deceit		
deceive	deceive		
perceive	perceive		
receipt	receipt		
receive	receive		

Exceptions to this week's use of the rule *i before e except after c*.

agencies	agencies	
legacies	legacies	
pharmacies	pharmacies	
policies	policies	
abilities	abilities	
species	species	
zombies	zombies	

Top Tips for learning a spelling:

1. Test yourself – how many do you know? Look at what you got right and what you got wrong. Often, people are wrong only because of one letter.
2. Learn your spellings using scrabble tiles. Pick out the letters to make the word. Mix them up and make the word from memory.
3. Look at the way colour has been used in the examples. The colour is used to pick out the rule. Write out your spellings using this two colour method.
4. Learn the rule. Make sure you understand it.
5. Make your own flashcards – learn three a day.

6. Spelling strategies for this year

Identify the graphemes in a word: special s - p - e - ci - a - l · · · - · ·	Write each syllable of the word in a different colour. <i>es</i> - <i>ti</i> - <i>mate</i>	Identify the tricky bit in your word. Write it in a different colour. <i>knee</i>
Spelling graffiti Use a fancy font to spell the word. 	Look at the word, thinking about the shape. Close your eyes and see the shape outline. 	Make up a mnemonic. <i>rhythm</i> <i>Rhythm helps your two hips move</i>