Being able to spell words correctly is important because it makes your writing easier to read. If many words are spelt incorrectly it is difficult for the reader to follow what you have written. Being able to spell also helps you as a writer. If you can spell words easily you can spend more time thinking about what you are writing.

This book will help you to improve your spelling. It includes basic spelling strategies, common problem areas and useful spelling rules and guidelines.

**Finding your way around this book**

Before you start using this book, write your name in the name box on the first page.

Then decide how to begin. If you want a complete course on spelling, you should work right through the book from beginning to end. Another way to use the book is to dip into it when you want to find out about a particular topic, such as silent letters. The Contents page will help you to find the pages you need.

Whichever way you choose, don’t try to do too much at once – it’s better to work through the book in short bursts.

When you have found the topic you want to study, look out for these icons, which mark different parts of the text. **You may find it useful to have a dictionary nearby so that you can check any spellings you are not sure about.**

**Activities**

This icon shows you the activities that you should complete. You write your answers in the spaces provided. After you have worked through all the activities on the page, turn to pages 39 to 48 to check your answers. When you are sure that you understand the topic, put a tick in the box beside it on the Contents page.

On page 38 you will find suggestions for some projects (**Now you try**), which will give you further practice in spelling.

**Explanation**

This text explains the topic and gives examples. Make sure you read it before you start the activities.

**Did you know?**

This text gives you useful background information about the subject.