

# What to do when the words won't stick!

Do any of these describe your child:

- Practices every night for the spelling test, but still makes many errors?
- Makes constant spelling mistakes with the same words again and again?
- Is able to read a word one day, but is unable to decode that same word the next day?

Parents and teachers notice these things in children all the time! The research tells us that in order to remember the words and store them into our long term memory, our brain uses a process called Orthographic Mapping. This process involves the brain making connections between letter sounds and letter names. And guess what? Not all brains are wired to do this process automatically. While some children can be taught to learn a word with just 1-4 practices, it takes others up to 40 times to learn that same word. The good news is that there is a great way to practice word learning by using the Orthographic Mapping technique.

So, how can I work on this process at home?

First, click this link to watch a video that shows you what to do:

[Video Link](#)

Next, click this link to download the *Map the Snap* template:

[Map the Snap](#)

For more information, head over to [Sarah's Snippets](#) for some great ideas!

Reference: Kilpatrick, D.A. (2016) *Equipped for reading success*. Casey & Kirsch Publishers