

## Drastic Method

### **What is “Drastic Method” and why is it important?**

“Drastic Method” (Cunningham, 1980) is a strategy that can be used to help your child learn sight words. This strategy takes a lot of time to complete and should be used only with words that your child confuses regularly.

### **How can I use “Drastic Method” with my child?**

Select a sight word that is difficult for your child to remember and write it on an index card. Cut the word card into separate letters. Mix the letters up and have your child put the letters in the correct order. Repeat this process several times. Place the letters in an envelope with the word written on the outside. Save the envelope and letters for future practice.

Write the word on a piece of paper and encourage your child to visualize it with his eyes closed. Do this several times. Now, remove the word from your child’s view and ask him to write the word on a piece of paper. Show him the correct spelling and repeat this process several times until he can correctly write the word three times from memory.

Have available several sentences containing the word so that your child can read it in context. Provide opportunities for your child to read books containing the word.