

ei and ie Words

Use this rhyme to help you remember how to spell ei and ie words:

'i' before 'e' except after 'c' if the vowel sound rhymes with bee

field ← Rhymes with bee,
so 'i' before 'e'.

receive ← Rhymes with bee but
follows a 'c' — so 'e'
before 'i'.

weight ← Doesn't rhyme
with bee, so 'e'
before 'i'.

science ← Doesn't rhyme with
bee but follows a 'c' —
so 'i' before 'e'.

1 Circle the correct spelling of each word to complete the sentences below.

"I alone in the universe can wield / weild such power," said Andy.

Sarah was very relieved / releived that her sister was okay.

Please be brief / breif because I don't have much time.

Don't do that to the telephone receiver / reciever — you'll break it.

Don't try to decieve / deceive me.

2 Complete the words below using either ei or ie.

bel.....vable

f.....rce

n.....ghbour

r.....gn

misch.....vous

hyg.....ne

conc.....ve

ach.....vable

3 Circle the misspelt words below.

yeild

glacier

soceity

wieght

science

vareity

reciept

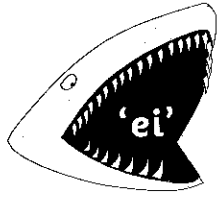
achievement

Some words don't follow the 'i before e' rule. → caffeine

You just have to learn these words.

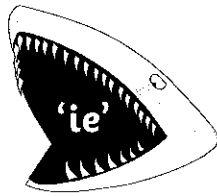
4 The ei and ie parts of the words below are missing. Draw lines to match each word to its missing part.

n?ther



?ther

d?sel



t?r

perc?ve

h?ght

Watch out — 'neither' and 'either' can be pronounced differently, which confuses the 'rhymes with bee' rule.

5 Circle the exceptions to the 'i before e' rule.

retrieve

seize

protein

nutrients

weird

niece

shield

siege

6 Complete these words by adding ie or ei, then write each word in a sentence.

anc.....nt

.....

th.....f

.....

rel.....ve

.....

fr.....ght

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