How to teach kids to spell high-frequency words

– Segment the word into its phonemes (sounds).

was

/w/ /u/ /z/

– Code the word showing its graphemes (spellings of the phonemes).

w a s
● ● ●

– Identify the tricky spellings in the word and show familiar words with these spellings.

w a s

Note: the spelling <a> for the sound /o/ follows a letter that spells the sound /w/

want	is
watch	has
wash	his
wand	does
wasp	
swap	

– Ask the student to say the sounds as she/he writes the word.

'w' 'a' 's' → was