Read the information below and have a go at the worksheet on the next page.

# 'I' before 'E' except after 'C'

In words which have an 'i' and an 'e' next to each other, the 'i' always comes first unless they come after the letter 'c'. If they do, then the 'e' comes first, followed by the 'i'.

#### For example:

The 'i' comes before the 'e' in the word

#### believe

because there is no letter 'c' before the pair.

### For example:

The 'e' comes before the 'i' in the word

#### receive

because there is a letter 'c' before them.



lie field cried thief chief shield deceive deceit ceiling perceive receipt conceit



## If you are writing a word and you are unsure, stop and think:

- Check for the letter 'c' first. If the letters come after one, you use the 'ci' spelling rule, regardless of sound.
- The 'ie' spelling pattern is used most of the time if those letters make the sound 'igh' or 'ee' in a word.
- The 'ei' spelling pattern is used most of the time if those letters make the sound 'ay' in the word.

#### Remember:

If a word ends the with letters 'i' and 'e', it will always be the 'ie' spelling pattern. If a word begins the with letters 'i' and 'e', it will always be the 'ei' spelling pattern.



## 'I' before 'E' except after 'C'

Read the passage below and correct any spellings which are incorrect. Watch out for any words which are exceptions to the rule.

Dear Ashliegh,

It has been a feirce battle against the weather on our journey to the glaceir but we must sieze the opportunity in the name of sceince. My friend and I sheilded our faces from the wind and trudged the deadwieght of our equipment through the snow. People think we're wierd for trying to acheive this goal but Earth's future depends on it. We must yeild the hieght and wieght of this glaceir before it is too late. We iether change our ways or face our peril.

Tomorrow, we will tei our ropes to the cieling of the ice cave and lower into the abyss. No one has ever had so much as a breif view of this anceint wonder. I cannot wait for the releif that will come when I am able to shake the cheif's hand and reveiw our findings.

I hope that you recieve my letter in good health. I will write again soon.

Charlei.