Spelling list: ay words - set 1

The combination *ay* is commonly used at the end of words to represent the long /a/ sound in English. Recognising this pattern is essential for accurate spelling and pronunciation. For instance, words like *day* and *lay* illustrate how this spelling works, helping you sound out each word correctly.

In this set, you will explore a variety of words that use the *ay* spelling. Each example demonstrates how this combination functions in different contexts. Take your time to read through the words and their meanings, and consider incorporating them into your vocabulary practice!

day You can have a **day** off next week.

hay Our rabbit likes to sleep in **hay**.

lay Male birds do not **lay** eggs.

may Please **may** I have a piece of cake?

pay I insist it is my turn to **pay**.

ray A **ray** of sunshine lit up the wall.

say What did you **say**?

way Which way shall we go?

clay The potter made mugs out of **clay**.

pray They will **pray** together before they eat their dinner.

tray They greased the baking **tray**.

slay The knight stood ready to **slay** the dragon with his sword.

stay Playing sport can help us **stay** healthy.

sway We watched them **sway** in time to the music.

spray Antibacterial **spray** helps to kill germs.

stray Stray cats are often very thin.