

THE SPELLING BEE TOOLBOX™ FOR GRADES 3-5

*All the resources you need for a successful
Spelling Bee!*

by Ann Richmond Fisher
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THE SPELLING BEE TOOLBOX™

Table of Contents

Click on any page number to go directly to that page.

Introduction	page 3
Instructions	page 4
Rules for Classroom Spelldowns	page 7
Rules for Classroom Spelling Bees	page 8
Rules for All-School Spelling Bees	page 9
Organizational Checklist	page 11
Recorder's Charts	page 13
Letter to Families	page 15
Sample Press Release	page 16
Classroom Activities	page 17
Spelling Bee Games	page 18
The Scripps Spelling Bee	page 19
How to Study for a Spelling Bee	page 20
Spelling Rules for Elementary Grades	page 22
Study List for Students	page 24
Student Worksheets	page 25
Answers to Worksheets	page 29
Spelling Bee Clip Art	page 30
Spelling Bee Bookmarks and Reminders	page 31
Deluxe Color Award Certificates	page 33
Deluxe Black and White Award Certificates	page 48
600 Spelling Bee Words and Sentences	page 63
Alphabetical Listing of 600 words	page 90
Super Challenge words	page 95

THE SPELLING BEE TOOLBOX™

Introduction

Dictionary.com defines a Spelling Bee as “a spelling competition won by the individual or team spelling the greatest number of words correctly.” Of course, that’s true, but a spelling bee is so much more!

A spelling bee motivates students to study spelling words. A spelling bee fosters healthy competition. It recognizes excellence in learning. It brings students into a well-defined structure and requires that they follow rules. And, a spelling bee is FUN!

Spelling bees are growing in popularity worldwide, as shown by the emails, comments and questions I’ve received from parents, teachers and students around the globe. Folks have requested even more tools than already appear on the website, and they’ve given me ideas for expanding the ones that are there.

As a result, in this book I’ve brought together the best tools from the website, all in one place, and I’ve expanded many of them. Plus, I’ve added those additional tools that site visitors have requested. You’ll find more words, more sentences, more award certificates, more tips for teachers, and so much MORE of everything.

This Spelling Bee Toolbox is truly the one resource you need for your own successful spelling bees!

Thanks for your support of www.spelling-words-well.com. Please keep the comments coming.

Ann

ann@spelling-words-well.com

THE SPELLING BEE TOOLBOX™

Instructions

Students in elementary grades may have never before participated in a spelling bee, so make sure you give them a positive first experience! Read through all the instructions and choose the resources that best fit your students. In order to gain the maximum benefit from the tools in this eBook, please refer to the instructions for each section.

Guidelines for Three Kinds of Spelling Bees

The set of rules you choose to follow will depend on:

- The setting of your spelling bee
- The number of spellers who are participating
- The number of people involved in conducting the bee
- The time that's available for the bee

I recommend you read through the guidelines for all the types of bees listed here, and then pick and choose the features that will work best for your situation. (Please note the spelling games on page 18 which are good introductory activities for young spellers.) Once you've decided on the rules you'll use, be certain to make the rules clear to all the students, parents and teachers who will be involved in the activity. Then be sure to follow the rules consistently during the contest.

Organizing a Spelling Bee

Use this checklist to get organized and stay organized. Adjust the list as needed for your situation. If you are responsible for a large bee, please don't ignore this tool!

Recorder's Chart

The recorder (or one of the judges) can use this helpful tool to keep track of which spellers are in and out of the competition. It's important to note the round on which each one is eliminated, the misspelled word, and the misspelling in case of disputes later. The first page is numbered for the first twenty students in the first 8 rounds. The second page can be photocopied as needed for subsequent rounds and additional spellers.

Family Letter

Use this letter as is, or adapt for your situation. It's essential to communicate early and often with families. You can also adapt this for email and Facebook posts.

Press Release

Members of the press won't know about your event unless you tell them! Use this format to formally announce your Bee to local newspapers, radio and television stations. Be sure to include the *who, what, where, when* info at the very beginning of your press release. Reporters love a good local story, so be sure to include interesting details about your bee that will draw their attention and make them *want* to promote your event!

Classroom activities and Spelling Bee Games

Use these ideas to help students gain confidence in spelling in front of others and to increase their spelling proficiency. These ideas can be used year-round, even when your students are *not* participating in a spelling bee.

The Scripps Spelling Bee

This information answers some basic questions about the world's most famous bee. Use the links to learn more.

How to Study for a Spelling Bee

Give students this helpful guide as early as possible. Review the suggestions frequently in class.

Spelling Rules for Elementary Grades

This list includes a lot of the spelling rules that that students in grades 3-5 already know and a few more they should master before any spelling bee. Mastering these rules can give students clues about spelling words that are new to them in spelling bees.

Study List

These 100 words are a good sampling of words students might expect to encounter in any spelling bee. Approximately 70 of these words appear in the mega-list of 600 words in this eBook.

Worksheets

Use these formats to make more of your own worksheets using new words. You can even ask your *students* to help create worksheets to share with classmates. The more times students use their spelling words, the more likely they are to remember them.

Clip art

Use these images to spruce up your flyers and letters. Here's one way to use our clip art as digital images:

1. Scroll to the page(s) with the image(s) you wish to use.
2. Press the "print screen" button on your keyboard.
3. Open up a new document in "Paint" or other image-editing program of your choice.
4. Insert the image from "print screen" by using Ctl + V or "insert"
5. Crop the image(s) you want. Resize as necessary.
6. In the file menu, click on "Save as." Name the file, save as a .jpg or .png in your documents or picture files in a location you can find later.
7. Open up a word document, then Insert --> Picture --> from file. Go to the saved location of your clip art image.
8. Adjust the image size as necessary as well as its layout properties. Complete your letter, announcement or other document.

Bookmarks

Photocopy these designs on card stock, cut apart and laminate.

Reminders

Use these for students, their families, and even spelling bee officials.

Award Certificates

Choose the awards that best fit the mood of your competition – serious, fun, modern, or traditional – in either color or black and white. You can follow either of these procedures in presenting the awards:

- 1) Print out the certificates of your choice prior to your spelling bee. After the bee, write in the winners' names and present them immediately or at a later date.
- 2) After the bee, open the certificates of your choice in a pdf-editing program. Insert the winners' names and print. Present the awards at a later ceremony.

Spelling Bee Words and Sentences

Our list of 600 words was gleaned from a variety of grade-level resources. Many of the words appear in the spelling bee word lists on our website. Be sure to read through the words in advance of any spelling bee to rearrange, add and omit words as you see fit.

Also read through all the sentences prior to your competition. **Feel free to use your own sentences for any of the ones here that you feel are not meaningful or appropriate for your students.** Sentences are purposely brief. Many sentences give clues to the words' meanings as an aid to the speller. You don't need to use every word on the list. Skip over any words that you think might cause problems.

In general, our words appear from easiest to most difficult. However, this will not always be true for every speller. There are a few 2nd grade words included near the beginning of the list. There are many words at the 6th and 7th grade levels and beyond toward the end of the list.

You may start with any word on the list, depending on the level of your students. Here are some general guidelines:

Grade 3 – Start at the beginning

Grade 4 – Start around #150

Grade 5 – Start around #300

During the bee, you may choose to skip large sections of the list in order to get to more difficult words more quickly.

Alphabetical Listing of 600 Spelling Bee Words

This quick reference tool will allow you to compare our word list to your own spelling curriculum and other resources.

Super Challenge List

Use these words to challenge your best spellers or to supplement our list of 600 words during your spelling bee. Throughout the school year, be on the lookout for more super-challenge words to add to this list.

THE SPELLING BEE TOOLBOX™

Classroom Spelldown

This is a great format to use in your classroom in a single class period. The “team spirit” factor helps spellers encourage one another. Misspelled words are spelled again and again until they’re corrected, making this a valuable instructional tool. (For more classroom spelling games that are perfect elementary students, please see page 18.)

1. Divide students into two teams.
2. Each team lines up on opposite sides of the room, facing each other.
3. The teacher reads the first word to Player 1 on Team A. She also uses the word in a sentence.
4. Player 1 repeats the word, spells it, and says the word again.
5. If the player is correct, he moves to the end of the line on team A. The teacher gives the next word to the first player on Team B. If the player is incorrect, the player sits down and is out of the spelldown. The teacher gives the same word to player 1 on Team B.
6. Player 1 on Team B repeats the word, spells it, and says the word again.
7. If she is correct, she moves to the end of the line on her team.
8. The Spelldown continues with correct players moving to the end of the line, and incorrect players leaving the competition. Eventually, the students who have spelled correctly will move to the front of the line to spell again and again. At some point, one team will have only one speller. That student must spell every time it’s his team’s turn.
9. The spelldown ends when one team has lost all its spellers. The winning team is the one with the last speller(s) standing.

Variation:

If the same word is misspelled by two (or choose a different number) players, both players *remain in the spelldown*. The teacher writes the correct spelling of the missed word on the board and gives those players a new word to spell.

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Classroom Spelling Bee

This individual competition is slightly more competitive than the spelldown, but not as rigid as the formal spelling bee, outlined below.

1. Determine the order in which students will spell. Arrange spellers in that order in their seats or in an open area of the classroom.
2. The teacher announces the word to be spelled. He speaks slowly and clearly, without distorting the normal pronunciation of the word. He uses the word in a sentence and says the word again.
3. The speller listens carefully to the teacher and asks for the word to be repeated if necessary.
4. When the speller is sure she understands the word, she pronounces it, spells it and then says the word again.
5. The teacher determines whether or not the word was spelled correctly.
6. If the correct spelling was given, the speller remains in the bee.
7. If the spelling was incorrect, that speller is eliminated from the bee. The teacher gives the correct spelling of that word. Then the teacher reads a new word to the next student.
8. The bee continues until all but two spellers have been eliminated. When there are only two spellers left, if one player misspells a word, the other player must spell that word correctly, plus one more word to be declared the winner of the spelling bee.

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All-School (or Large) Spelling Bee

For this type of spelling bee, you'll need several officials: a pronouncer, at least one judge, a recorder and, optionally, a timekeeper.

The spelling bee coordinator should select officials for these positions who speak clearly, listen carefully and who will follow the guidelines you present to them.

Advance preparation by the spelling bee officials:

Pronouncer

Read through the word list in advance. Look up the correct pronunciation of any unfamiliar words in a dictionary. Learn the rules for the bee.

Judges

Read the rules and the word list. Secure a large dictionary to use on the day of the bee. Designate one person as the head judge who will make the final decisions on the correct or incorrect spelling of a word.

Recorder

Read the rules and word list in advance. Review the recorder's chart.

Timekeeper-Optional (See rule 4B)

During the bee, the timekeeper uses a stopwatch to keep track of the amount of time the speller uses to complete the spelling of each word. The time limit must be decided in advance and announced to all participants. A limit of 30 - 40 seconds is recommended, depending on the age of the students, the difficulty of the words, and the available time for the bee.

Spelling bee coordinator

Be sure to meet with the spelling bee officials prior to the bee to make sure all the rules and procedures are clear.

Immediately before the bee begins:

(For a more complete checklist, see page 11.)

1. Decide the order in which the students will participate. Seat them in order on stage, or at the front of the room.
2. Arrange a table for the judges and recorder.
3. Be sure all members of the audience are seated and quiet.

To conduct the bee, the head judge reads the rules and procedures aloud to the spellers and audience. He asks the spellers if they have any questions about the rules.

Rules:

1. The first speller goes to the microphone.
2. The pronouncer announces the word to be spelled. He speaks slowly and clearly, without distorting the normal pronunciation of the word. He uses the word in a sentence and says the word again.
3. The speller listens carefully to the pronouncer and asks for the word to be repeated if necessary.
4. When the speller is sure she understands the word, she pronounces it, spells it and then says the word again. She must say it loudly enough for the judge(s) to hear it.

Optional additions to this rule:

A. Once a speller has started spelling the word, she may start over as long as she has not finished spelling the word and repeated it. **OR**
Once a speller has started to spell the word, she may not start over.

B. Spellers will have a time limit of ____ seconds in which to complete the spelling of the word, from the time she indicates to the pronouncer that she understands the word she is to spell.

5. The judge(s) determines whether or not the word was spelled correctly.
6. If the correct spelling was given, the speller remains in the bee and goes back to her seat.
7. If the spelling was incorrect, that speller is eliminated from bee. The speller leaves the stage at the end of the round, i.e. after each speller has taken one turn. (Optional variations: The speller leaves the stage immediately.)
8. If the word was misspelled, the judge gives the correct spelling of that word. Then the pronouncer reads a new word to the next student.
9. This process continues with correct spellers staying in the competition and incorrect spellers being eliminated.
10. When there are only two spellers left, if one player misspells a word, the other player must spell that word correctly, plus one more word to be declared the winner of the spelling bee.

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Organizational Checklist

Use this checklist to plan a school-wide or district-wide spelling bee. Check off each task as it is completed.

6-12 months in advance

- ☐ Form a group of 3-4 people to help organize the spelling bee.
- ☐ Decide what schools, grades or ages will compete in your spelling bee.
- ☐ Set the date.
- ☐ Reserve the facilities you will need.
- ☐ Notify teachers, students, parents, and administrators of the date of the bee and the eligibility requirements.
- ☐ Discuss the funds that will be needed for the event. Learn what resources are already available and how much more money you may need to raise.
- ☐ Contact local businesses, if necessary, to help fund your event.

3-6 months in advance

- ☐ Decide what word lists you will use. Let spellers know in advance. We recommend the list of 600 words in this book. But you may decide to make your own list based on your own spelling curriculum. The Scripps National Spelling Bee uses *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* and its Addenda Section (copyright 2002 by Merriam-Webster), which means those spellers must be ready for anything! Whatever you decide, be sure that students have at least some of the words in advance and/or know what dictionary you'll be using.
- ☐ Choose your Spelling Bee pronouncer, judges, record keeper, and timekeeper, if needed. Double-check their availability for your date.
- ☐ Double-check on the availability of your facility.
- ☐ If your bee will be held at a location other than your own school, arrange to have someone attend your event that is familiar with the building. Be sure you have someone to run the sound system.
- ☐ Decide on the spelling bee rules you will use. (See page 10 for our suggestions.) Send written copies to students, parents, teachers, and all bee officials.
- ☐ Decide if you want to serve refreshments and if so, what type of foods and beverages you want to include. Then find a very responsible person to be in charge of that portion of the event.

1-2 months in advance

- ☐ Decide on prizes. Choose award certificates included in this book, or order medals and trophies from local vendors or online sources. (Allow at least 6 weeks for special orders.)
- ☐ Check back with all participants frequently. One month before the spelling bee, send a note to all classrooms and bee officials reminding them of the date. Tell them what time they should arrive at the competition.
- ☐ Get a list of the names of all students who expect to participate.
- ☐ Notify local newspapers, radio stations, and TV stations to let them know about the spelling bee. See the Sample Press Release on page 16.
- ☐ Invite sponsors to attend.

1-2 weeks in advance

- ☐ Announce the bee on your Face Book page and other social media.
- ☐ If you're using a stage, be sure you have chairs, a podium, microphones, and tables for the judges.
- ☐ Make name tags for all participants and officials.
- ☐ Print out word lists for the pronouncers and judges. Print the recorder's chart (pages 13-14) for the record keeper. Gather dictionaries, pencils, and a stopwatch.
- ☐ Contact media personnel again and encourage them to cover your big event.

The day of the Spelling Bee

- ☐ Arrive 2 hours early with your word lists, dictionaries, recorder's charts, pencils, awards and name tags.
- ☐ Check the sound system and seating.
- ☐ Welcome your spellers, staff and audience.
- ☐ Publicly thank sponsors, spellers, teachers, parents, staff and media.
- ☐ *Enjoy the bee!*

After the Spelling Bee

- ☐ Clean up the facility, if necessary.
- ☐ Announce the spelling bee winners in public forums.
- ☐ Send a thank you note to everyone who helped with the bee.
- ☐ Recover and start planning for next year!

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Recorder's Chart

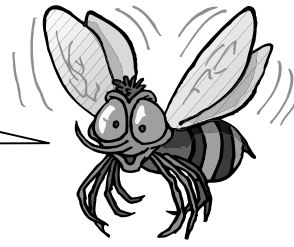
Student	Round								Misspelled Word
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
<i>Example: Jane Doe</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	x				acter
1.									
2.									
3.									
4.									
5.									
6.									
7.									
8.									
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Recorder's Chart – Additional pages

[illegible]

Spelling Bee News!



Dear Families,

A very important event involving your student is coming up! Please mark this information on your calendar now.

The _____ Spelling Bee

Date:

Time:

Location:

Here are several ways you can help your student prepare for the Bee:

1) Help your student study spelling words frequently. Ask him/her to spell them aloud. You can study word lists that I will be sending home, words from other textbooks, words from the newspaper and unfamiliar words from the dictionary.

2) On the week of the Spelling Bee, and especially the night before the Bee, make sure your student gets plenty of rest and proper nutrition.

3) If at all possible, plan to attend the Bee. If you are unable to attend, please try to arrange for another family member or friend to be there. Your presence will be a huge encouragement to *all* of our students.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at: _____

Thank you in advance for your support!

Sincerely,

Sample Press Release

Fisher Elementary School
123 Scholarly Drive
Lansing, MI 49ZIP
(123) 456-7890

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: John Doe, Spelling Bee Coordinator
(123) 456-7890 x987

10th Annual Fisher Elementary School Spelling Bee – November 9

Lansing, MI – On Tuesday, November 9, at 10 A.M, the Fisher Elementary School will hold its tenth annual spelling bee competition in the school's auditorium. Admission is free and open to the public.

Twenty-four students from grades 3, 4, and 5 will compete for the title of school champion. The champion will represent the school next month in the Ingham County Spelling Bee.

Mayor Sue Jones will be on hand to present the trophy to this year's winner. The winner will also receive a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond, compliments of Acme Services, this year's sponsor.

School principal, Ms. Sondra Smith, notes that two past winners of Fisher Elementary School Spelling Bee have gone on to compete at the state and national levels. She urges the public to attend the event and encourage the hard-working students.

Each participant has already competed at his/her own grade level and finished among the top 8 in his/her class. During the all-school competition, participants will be asked to spell words from lists they have not previewed. It should prove to be a challenging competition for all students.

For more information about the Fisher Elementary School Spelling Bee, please contact *John Doe* at 123.456.7890.987 or j.doe@email.address.

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Classroom Activities

You can help your students prepare for spelling bees all year long. Their success in spelling bees will depend on two factors:

- A) Spelling proficiency
- B) Confidence spelling aloud in front of others

To help students gain proficiency in their spelling skills:

- 1) Challenge students each week with a few tough words. Write the words on the board at the beginning of each week and discuss their meanings. Include these difficult words on the weekly spelling quiz and in other written assignments. Use words from their other subjects, such as science, social studies, and math. Also refer to the list of spelling bee words at the end of this book, word lists at www.spelling-words-well.com and/or the dictionary.
- 2) Ask students to contribute the challenge words. Assign a different pair of students each week to find 5 difficult words. At the beginning of each week, the two students can do a brief oral presentation in which they write the words on the board and explain their meanings.
- 3) Review common spelling rules with students. See pages 22-23.
- 4) Give students extra written practice with difficult words. Reading and writing are essential experiences, especially for visual learners.
- 5) Frequently review commonly misspelled words such as *enough*, *friend*, and *neighbor*.

To help students gain confidence in spelling aloud:

- 1) Conduct frequent, brief oral quizzes. At the beginning or end of a class period, use just a minute or two for “popcorn” quizzes. Randomly call out a student’s name and a spelling word. For example, say “Rachel, *always*.” Rachel pops up and spells *always*. If she’s incorrect, call on the student seated behind her, “Ali, *always*,” and so on. This not only gives frequent practice, it motivates students to study the weekly spelling words.
- 2) Ask students to do oral reading, oral math, or any kind of oral presentation from their seats and especially in front of the class.
- 3) Play our spelling bee games on page 18.

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Spelling Bee Games

Team Spelling

Here's a simple, fun game to help get your students ready for a spelling bee. The only supplies you'll need are the chalkboard and chalk (or whiteboards and markers). You can play this game anytime throughout the year, with any list of spelling words.

1. Ask students to "count off" into four groups. Then seat all the 1s together, all the 2s together, and so on.
2. Divide the board into 4 sections and number them, so that each team has one section of the board on which to write.
3. To play, ask the first person on each team to come to the board. Pronounce the first spelling word. The first person to finish the word correctly wins a point for his team.
4. For the next spelling word, the second person from each team comes to the board.
5. At the end of playing time, the team with the most points is the winner.

Tic Tac Toe Spelling Game

Here's another super-simple spelling game that you can play with the whole class, or in small groups, in a short or long period of class time.

1. Draw a tic-tac-toe game on the board.
2. Divide students into two groups. Assign one team to be the Xs, and one team to be the O's.
3. To play, one member from each team goes to the board. Pronounce a spelling word for the X team.
4. If the X player **correctly** spells the word, he may put an X on the tic-tac-toe game. If he spells the word **incorrectly**, he may not put an X on the game. A new member of his team goes to the board to wait for her turn.
5. Then pronounce a new word for the O team and proceed in the same manner.
6. The first team to get three Xs or three O's in a row wins the round.

The Scripps Spelling Bee

No spelling bee resource would be complete without mentioning the Scripps Spelling Bee, the oldest national spelling competition in the United States. It began in 1925 and is run as a not-for-profit competition by the E.W. Scripps Company. It is the “bee of all spelling bees” with final rounds aired on television stations around the world.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible to compete in the Scripps National Spelling Bee, students must attend a school that is enrolled in the Scripps program. (See Scripps FAQs for rules regarding homeschooled students.) Students must be under the age of 16 and in grades 8 or below. Schools must enroll with the national office from mid-August through mid-October and pay a fee to participate.

Participating schools are located in the U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico, New Zealand, South Korea, U.S. Department of Defense schools in Europe, and several other locations.

The Process

While different regions follow different plans, usually schools hold several small competitions. For example, each classroom might hold its own bee. Then the winners from each classroom might compete against each other in school wide spelling bee. Next, the winners from several schools in the same city or county might compete against each other. Regional and statewide competitions may also follow.

Normally, champions compete at several levels before moving on to the finals which are held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, D.C. The finals are always held during the week following Memorial Day.

Preparation

Students who are serious about competing in Scripps study all year long, for hours every day. Students in enrolled schools can receive lists of words to study from Scripps. Merriam-Webster also provides study helps. In addition to learning the spellings of words, it is also very helpful students to learn definitions, pronunciations, parts of speech and etymologies of words.

Many champion students study straight from the *Third New International Dictionary of the English Language*, the official dictionary used by Scripps. They also read good books to learn new words. Students often keep a special list of their own interesting words to memorize.

Prizes

The champion of the annual Scripps National Spelling Bee receives a generous prize package including a large amount of cash, a huge trophy, and reference books. All spellers who make it to the finals receive prizes, based on the number of rounds they successfully complete.

Helpful links:

Home page for the Scripps Spelling Bee: <http://www.spellingbee.com/>

Complete student eligibility rules: <http://www.spellingbee.com/eligibility>

FAQs for Scripps: <http://www.spellingbee.com/customer-service-center>

Past champions: <http://www.spellingbee.com/champions-and-their-winning-words>

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How to Study for a Spelling Bee

In a weekly spelling quiz, you know exactly which words you'll be asked to spell. But in a spelling bee, you could be asked to spell just about anything! So what's the best way to prepare to spell well at your next competition?

There are several strategies you should use. Some are long-term practices, and others can be used at the last minute to boost your skills.

Long term - What you should do all year long



1. Keep a spelling notebook. Write down words that are tricky for you, including words you've misspelled on spelling quizzes or writing assignments. Also write down words that you don't know how to spell very well. Read over the words in your notebook frequently.

2. Read a lot to expand to learn new words. As you read, you'll learn new words and how to use them. Add the most interesting words and the ones with the trickiest spellings to your notebook.

3. Be sure to learn the spelling words you're given in class each week, as well as vocabulary words from science, social studies and math classes.

4. Practice difficult words over and over. Write them on paper, and type them into a text document on the computer. Ask someone to quiz you aloud on the words. All of this practice helps you to remember the words when you're in a spelling bee.

5. Try different ways to spell words when you're on stage. At home, practice spelling words aloud, using one of these methods:

- Trace it in the air or on the back of your hand with your finger
- Say it to yourself
- Picture it in your mind

Which way works the best for you? Once you figure it out, use it once or twice a week as you spell words aloud with a friend or family member. Get comfortable with spelling tricky words in front of other people.

6. Learn basic spelling strategies and rules. (See page 22.) In your notebook, make a list of commonly-used words that are exceptions to these rules.

7. If you're really serious about advancing to regional, state or national competitions, you need to get a good dictionary and study it. Many older students use *Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language, Unabridged*, the largest dictionary of the English language. It's the one used by the Scripps' National Spelling Bee, making it the perfect one to study for advanced spelling bee competitions.

8. Talk to other students who have done well in spelling bees. Talk to older students, your brothers or sisters, or classmates who have done well. What tips worked for them? You can also read books about successful spellers, including *How to Spell Like a Champ* by Trinkle, Andrews and Kimble.

Short term - What you can do weeks or days before the spelling bee



1. Ask your teacher for specific list of words you can study. See the word lists at www.spelling-words-well.com if you need more words. Then study!

2. Review all the words in your spelling book, especially those that were hard to learn.

3. Practice spelling a lot of words aloud with a friend or family member. Ask a parent or older sibling to quiz you while you're riding in the car, walking to the store, or anytime.

4. Post spelling words everywhere: the bathroom mirror, the computer desktop, your school desk or locker. Carry a list of words you want to learn in your pocket. Pull out the list and study it when you have spare minutes between other activities.

5. Review homonyms such as *rain/rein/reign*, *capital/capitol*, and *cymbal/symbol*. Be sure you know the correct usage of each word.

6. Ask someone to quiz you on words that you haven't studied before. They can find these words in a library book or on the front page of a newspaper.

7. Review the tips in the long-term list above and work on them as much as possible.

8. The night before the spelling bee, get plenty of rest. Eat a good breakfast in the morning. Include some protein, such as eggs, cheese or peanut butter.

9. Most importantly, believe you can do it! Your preparation will give you confidence to think clearly and spell correctly, even if you feel a little bit nervous!

THE SPELLING BEE TOOLBOX™

Spelling Rules for Elementary Grades

Go over the spelling rules you've already learned before any competition. Also review words that are exceptions to the rules. These rules may help you figure out how to spell new words in a spelling bee. Here are 14 rules and exceptions to review.

1. Compound Words

Keep both words whole. Don't drop the last letter of the first word or the first letter of the last word. Examples: roommate, bookkeeper, sidewalk, withhold.

2. Contractions

First make sure to spell the **correct** word. For example, listen to the sentence to know if you should spell *they're*, *their* or *there* and *who's* or *whose*. Then be sure to include the apostrophe in place of the missing letter.

3. Words spelled with *ie* or *ei*

Use *i* before *e* except after *c* or when sounded like *a* as in *neighbor* and *weigh*. Examples: friend, believe, ceiling, receive, eight, vein. There are many exceptions to this rule, including: *neither*, *science*, *their*, *weird*, and others. Memorize these.

Forming Plurals

4. Words that end in s,x,z, ch, or sh

To make these word plural, add es. Examples: boxes, churches, bushes, glasses.

5. Words that end in y

A) If a noun ends in a consonant followed by a *y*, change the *y* to *i* and add es.

Examples: babies, stories

B) If a noun ends in a vowel followed by a *y*, add s.

Examples: chimneys, turkeys

6. Words that end in *f* or *fe*

A) Most nouns ending in *f* or *fe* form the plural by changing the *f* or *fe* to *v* and adding -es.

Examples: knife/knives, hoof/hooves, loaf/loaves

Exception: roof/roofs

B) For a double *f*, just add s. Examples: puff/puffs, cliff/cliffs.



loaves

7. Making plurals from words that end in o

A) If a vowel comes before the final o, add s. Examples: radios, studios

B) If a consonant comes before the final o, usually add es. Examples: potatoes, echoes
The plural forms of *mosquito* and *tornado* can be spelled either way.

Interesting note: The plural of most words related to music that end in o are formed by adding s only. Examples: solos, pianos

Adding Prefixes

8. When adding prefixes such as *dis-*, *mis-*, *pre-*, *re-*, *un-*, the spelling of the base word does not change.

Examples: disable, misspell, redo, unusual.

Adding Suffixes

9. Doubling the final consonant

If a one-syllable word ends with a vowel followed by a consonant, double the consonant before adding the suffix. Examples: stopping, bedding, dipper

Note that words like *lead* become *leading* because there are two vowels before the final consonant. Words like *helping* have one *p* because they end in two consonants.

10. Words that end in e

A) Drop the e when the suffix begins with a vowel. (*-ed*, *-ing*, *-ous*, *-able*, *-y*)

Examples: closed, hoping, nervous, edgy. Exceptions: noticeable, courageous

A few words can be spelled either way: loveable or lovable, movable or moveable.

B) Keep the silent e when the suffix begins with a consonant (*-ment*, *-ful*, *-ly*)

Example: hopeful, movement. Exceptions: ninth, truly

11. Adding *-less*

The base word does not usually change. Examples: hopeless, clueless.

12. Adding *-ful*

The suffix *-ful* never has two ls. When *-ful* is added to a word, the spelling of the base word usually does not change.

Examples: helpful, cheerful, careful.

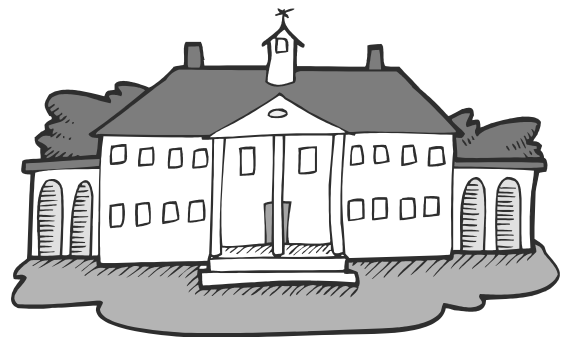
13. Adding *-dom* and *-ship*

The base word does not usually change.

Examples: friendship, freedom, kingdom.

14. The sound of /shun/

This sound is usually spelled *-tion*, and less often *-sion*. Examples: motion, nation, station, tension, mansion.



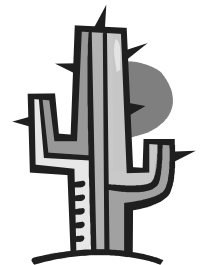
mansion

THE SPELLING BEE TOOLBOX™

Study List for Students

Here are 100 words to learn before your next spelling bee.

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. absence | 35. guess | 69. question |
| 2. acre | 36. happiest | 70. radios |
| 3. active | 37. haven't | 71. reach |
| 4. actor | 38. heavy | 72. received |
| 5. almost | 39. hopeful | 73. sandwich |
| 6. answer | 40. ignore | 74. Saturday |
| 7. aunt | 41. I'll | 75. science |
| 8. bakery | 42. interested | 76. secret |
| 9. balcony | 43. inventor | 77. separate |
| 10. beautiful | 44. judge | 78. shovel |
| 11. bread | 45. juice | 79. someone |
| 12. build | 46. kitchen | 80. spread |
| 13. careful | 47. knowledge | 81. straighten |
| 14. castle | 48. library | 82. supplying |
| 15. caught | 49. likely | 83. syllable |
| 16. champion | 50. listen | 84. taxi |
| 17. children | 51. manager | 85. television |
| 18. chimneys | 52. mirror | 86. temperature |
| 19. clothes | 53. moist | 87. thumb |
| 20. coming | 54. monkeys | 88. tomorrow |
| 21. daughter | 55. necessary | 89. Tuesday |
| 22. desert | 56. nephew | 90. uniform |
| 23. dinner | 57. noisy | 91. useful |
| 24. discover | 58. observe | 92. verse |
| 25. doesn't | 59. occur | 93. video |
| 26. eight | 60. opposite | 94. weight |
| 27. elect | 61. order | 95. wheat |
| 28. embarrass | 62. paper | 96. whole |
| 29. except | 63. paragraph | 97. written |
| 30. famous | 64. people | 98. yogurt |
| 31. February | 65. piece | 99. zipper |
| 32. freezer | 66. pleasure | 100. zone |
| 33. gloomy | 67. probably | |
| 34. grown | 68. queen | |



desert

Smelly Scents?

Choose the correct homonym in to complete each sentence. Write the word in the blank.



scents/cents

1. If your coins fell into the garbage, you might have smelly _____.

2. If you didn't like your mom's perfumes, you'd say she had smelly _____.

ants/aunts

3. If you like to eat chocolate covered insects, you'd say you're having _____ for dinner.

4. If your father's sisters are coming to visit, you'd say you're having your _____ over for dinner.

dear/deer

5. If your grandma is very fond of you, she'd call you her _____ grandchild.

6. If she spotted an animal outside the window, she'd say, "Come look at the _____, my grandchild!"

meat/meet

7. If you need to buy something to eat, you'd go out to buy some _____.

8. If you want to see a friend, you'd go out to _____ him.

their/there/they're

9. If you thought your friends left some games at your house, you'd ask if _____ missing some games.

10. If they can't find the games, they might ask you if they left _____ games at your house.

Whose/Who's

11. If you wonder why part of your lunch is missing, you might ask, "_____ been eating my lunch?"

12. If you found someone else's lunch, you might ask, "_____ lunch is this?"

On the back of this page, write sentences for these homonym sets:

nose/knows

wait/weight

rain/rein/reign

Threesomes

Fit each three-letter word into the blanks in the longer words below, one letter at a time to complete a common word. You should be able to match the words so that you use each three-letter word exactly once.

and	awe	cut	ice	lot	one	pie
rot	sad	see	tea	tie	wig	



Example: __pre__ + sad = spread

1. a__m__s__

2. s____al

3. n____k__l

4. __a__gh__

5. __e____ht

6. ____ssu__

7. s__r____k

8. __n__ez__

9. l____y__r

10. p____mp__

11. l____ly

12. ____ckl__

Wise With Words

If a word in the box is spelled correctly, you can find it in the puzzle. Circle each one that you find and cross it off the list. Words may appear in any direction.



If the word is not spelled correctly in the word list, it is not in the puzzle. Write it correctly in one of the blanks.

For extra fun, try to find one correctly-spelled word that appears TWO times in the puzzle. What is it? _____

l	x	t	t	n	e	f	l	k	s	f	n	g
f	o	s	s	i	l	d	a	n	i	p	y	y
y	x	g	e	f	u	a	o	n	u	e	t	t
e	x	c	i	d	g	g	a	l	v	d	g	p
n	e	b	l	b	e	l	r	e	p	a	i	e
o	e	t	r	h	l	c	r	i	r	x	n	c
u	n	e	a	y	e	y	e	b	n	i	e	x
g	o	i	e	c	o	l	a	i	m	n	s	e
h	u	g	u	n	u	g	e	r	v	u	e	u
k	g	h	e	f	e	d	e	v	o	e	g	d
m	h	t	y	r	u	t	e	m	e	p	u	b
o	t	h	o	y	e	c	a	h	w	n	m	h
b	r	x	c	d	o	f	w	c	y	v	h	t

Word List:

deceive
 delicious
 determine
 diferent
 dinosore
 doller
 doutful
 earliest
 educate
 eighth
 eleven
 enough
 especially
 everyone
 except
 explode
 famous
 finally
 forgotten
 fourteen
 fossil
 frieght
 garbage
 grinned

Answers to Worksheets

Take a Look

All words except *quiet*, *striped*, *tenth*, *tries* and *unite* are in the puzzle.

ABC order:

1. drawer
2. heard
3. interrupt
4. phase
5. quiet
6. quite
7. radios
8. ruin
9. said
10. sore
11. straight
12. striped
13. tenth
14. theater
15. toward
16. tries
17. unite
18. wrist

Smelly Scents?

1. cents 2. scents 3. ants 4. aunts 5. dear
6. deer 7. meat 8. meet 9. they're 10. their
11. Who's 12. Whose

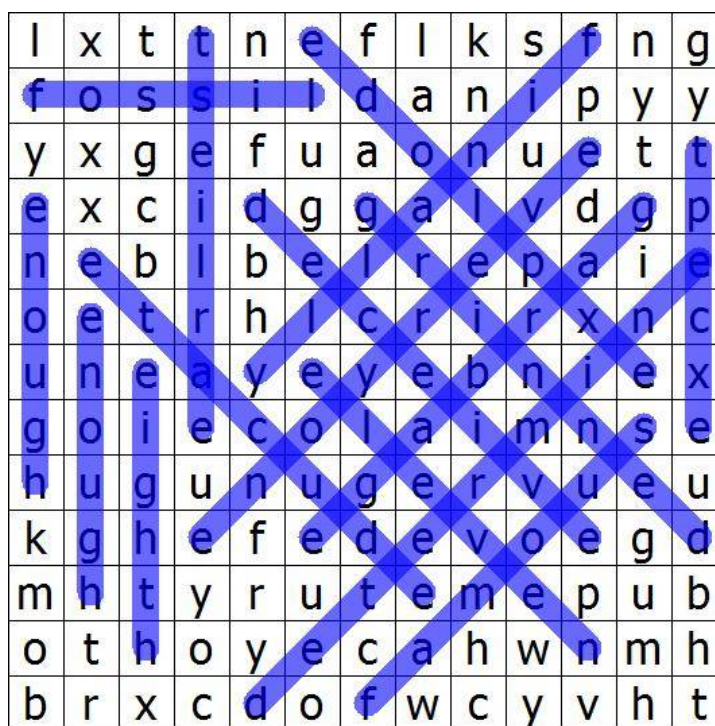
Threesomes

1. almost 2. sandal 3. nickel 4. caught
5. weight 6. tissue 7. streak 8. sneeze
9. lawyer 10. prompt 11. lonely 12. pickle

Wise With Words

The word *enough* appears twice in the puzzle.

Corrected spellings are: delicious, different, dinosaur, dollar, doubtful, especially, forgotten, fourteen, freight.



THE SPELLING BEE TOOLBOX™

Clip art, Bookmarks, Reminders and Award Certificates

Use these images to dress up your Spelling Bee written communications. Pick a single image to use over and over as a theme, or use a variety of images.

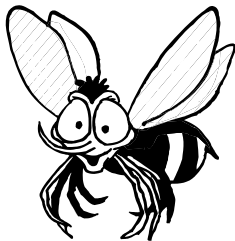
Don't get stung.



Be ready for the bee!



It's Time to Get Excited



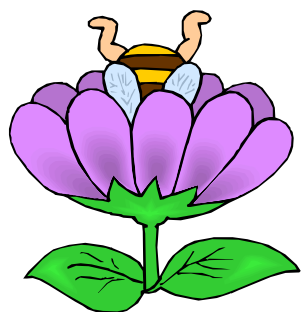
About Our Spelling Bee!

Spelling Bee



News!

THE SPELLING BEE TOOLBOX™



Dive right in
and study these
spelling words!

www.spelling-words-well.com

My Top

10

Words to Study
This Week:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

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**“Bee” Sure
You’re Ready
for the
Spelling Bee!**



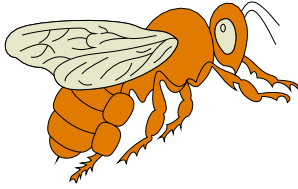
Date:

Time:

Place:

www.spelling-words-well.com

Spelling Bee Reminder



Date: _____

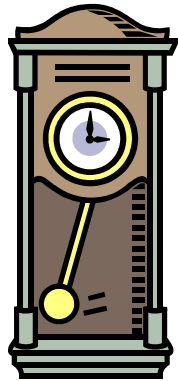
Time: _____

Place: _____

Other important info: _____

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Spelling Bee Reminder



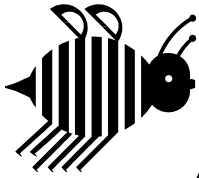
Date: _____

Time: _____

Place: _____

Other important info: _____

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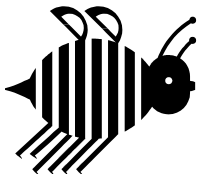


Congratulations
to

WINNER
of the

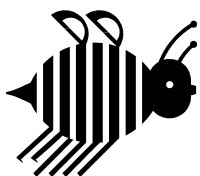
Spelling Bee
____, 20__

Signed _____



Title _____





Congratulations
to

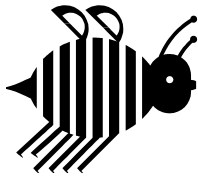
- Place Finisher
in the

Spelling Bee
____, 20__

Signed _____

Title _____





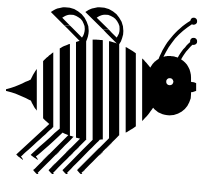
Thank You
to

for taking part
in the

Spelling Bee
____, 20__

Signed _____

Title _____





This is to certify that

was the

WINNER

of the

Spelling Bee

held on _____, 20____

Congratulations!



This is to certify that

finished in

_____ place

in the

Spelling Bee

held on _____, 20__

Great Job!

This is to certify that

participated in the

Spelling Bee

held on _____, 20__

**Thank you for helping to make
our bee a success!**



Congratulations

to

WINNER

of the

Spelling Bee!

Signed _____

Title _____

Date _____



Congratulations

to

Runner-Up

in the

Spelling Bee!

Signed _____

Title _____

Date _____



Thank You

to

for taking part

in the

Spelling Bee!

Signed _____
Title _____
Date _____

This Spelling Bee Certificate
is awarded to

Winner

of the _____
Spelling Bee

on _____, 20 ____

at _____

Congratulations!

Spelling bee coordinator

Teacher

This Spelling Bee Certificate
is awarded to

for finishing in

_____place

in the _____ Spelling Bee

held on _____, 20 ____

at _____

Congratulations!

Spelling Bee Coordinator

Teacher

This Spelling Bee Certificate
is awarded to

Thank you
for participating
in the _____
Spelling Bee

on _____, 20 ____

at _____

You helped to make our Bee a success!

Spelling bee coordinator

Teacher

This award goes to

Winner of the

_____ *Spelling Bee*

held on _____, 20____

at

Excellent Work!

Principal

Teacher

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This award goes to

for finishing in _____ place in the

_____ *Spelling Bee*

held on _____, 20____

at

Nice Job!

Principal

Teacher

This award goes to

for your participation in the

_____ *Spelling Bee*

held on _____, 20____

at

Thanks for being in our Bee!

Principal

Teacher

This award goes to

Winner of the

Spelling Bee

held on

, 20

at

Your hard work has paid off.

Congratulations!

Principal

Teacher

This award goes to

for finishing in _____ place

in the

Spelling Bee

held on _____, 20____

at

Great Work!

Principal

Teacher

This award goes to

for your participation in the

Spelling Bee

held on

, 20

at

*Your participation and hard work
helped to make our spelling bee a success.
Thank you!*

Principal

Teacher



Congratulations

to

Winner

**of the _____
Spelling Bee**

Held on _____, 20_____

at

Great Job!

Principal

Teacher



Congratulations

to

for finishing in ____ place

in the _____

Spelling Bee

Held on _____, 20____

at

Great Job!

Principal

Teacher

**This award goes
to**

for your participation in the

Spelling Bee

Held on _____, 20____
at

**You helped to make our bee a success.
Thank You!**

Principal

Teacher

This is to certify that

was the

WINNER

of the

Spelling Bee

held on _____, 20____

Congratulations!

This is to certify that

finished in

_____ place

in the

Spelling Bee

held on _____, 20__

Great Job!

This is to certify that

participated in the

Spelling Bee

held on _____, 20__

**Thank you for helping to make
our bee a success!**

Congratulations
to

Winner
of the

Spelling Bee

_____, 20____

Signed _____

Title _____

*Congratulations
to*

____ - *Place Finisher*
in the

Spelling Bee

____, 20____

Signed _____

Title _____



This is to certify that

*participated
in the*

Spelling Bee

_____, 20____

Signed _____

Title _____

This Spelling Bee Certificate
is awarded to

Winner

of the _____
Spelling Bee

on _____, 20 ____

at _____



Congratulations!

Spelling bee coordinator

Teacher

This Spelling Bee Certificate
is awarded to

for finishing in

_____place

in the _____ Spelling Bee

held on _____, 20 ____

at _____



Congratulations!

Spelling Bee Coordinator

Teacher

This Spelling Bee Certificate
is awarded to

Thank you
for participating
in the _____
Spelling Bee

on _____, 20 ____

at _____



You helped to make our Bee a success!

Spelling bee coordinator

Teacher

THE SPELLING BEE TOOLBOX™

Spelling Bee Words and Sentences

See instructions on page 6. To see all the words included in the list, please refer to the alphabetical listing on page 90.

1. more – I always ask for more milk.
2. rule – We must obey every rule on the bus.
3. spent – I just spent my last one-dollar bill.
4. son – Nancy's son is a policeman.
5. bread – My grandma bakes the best bread!
6. done – Mr. Smith is done mowing the grass.
7. point – I always use a pencil with a sharp point.
8. should – You should cover your mouth when you sneeze.
9. blind – The blind man walked with a white cane.
10. litter – Please put all your trash in the litter basket.
11. mail – Our mail is not delivered on Sundays.
12. rode – The motorcyclist rode his bike all day.
13. knew – I knew the answer to the question.
14. school – Math is my favorite subject in school.
15. balloon – The hot-air balloon was beautiful to watch.
16. hurt – I hurt my leg when I fell down the stairs.
17. dinner – We had shrimp and salad for dinner.
18. boxes – The moving van was full of heavy boxes.
19. there – There will be a special guest tomorrow at school.
20. offer – We made an offer to buy the used car.

21. meat – Grandpa likes to eat meat and potatoes every night.
22. your – What is your name?
23. law – A policeman's job is to enforce the law.
24. classes – Susan takes college classes at night.
25. lamb – A young sheep is called a *lamb*.
26. once – Once upon a time, there were three little pigs.
27. roll – Can you roll an egg across the floor?
28. someone – Someone should close the door.
29. bright – Please don't shine a bright light in my face!
30. warm – I like to be outside on a warm day.
31. runner – Each runner who finished the race received a medal.
32. June – June is the sixth month of the year.
33. clear – On a clear day, you can see across the lake.
34. newspaper – Gary reads the newspaper every night before dinner.
35. piece – I'd like one piece of pepperoni pizza.
36. I've – I've always wanted to visit London.
37. dollar – We love to shop at the store where everything costs one dollar.
38. cheese – Tommy sprinkled a lot of cheese on his spaghetti.
39. children – Sometimes young children are afraid of the dark.
40. sky – Can you see the airplane up in the sky?
41. that's – That's the funniest joke I've ever heard!
42. sitting – The dog was sitting in the sun, warming himself.
43. why – Why is the rain so noisy?

44. soft – The kitten’s fur is very soft.
45. almost – The horse almost got away from its owner.
46. knee – The baseball player injured his knee.
47. merry – May all your Christmases be merry and filled with joy!
48. stale – The cookies taste stale because they are very old.
49. always – We always brush our teeth before we go to bed.
50. early – I get up early on school days.
51. none – None of us knew the secret password.
52. seventh – My father was the seventh child in his family.
53. serve – The waiter will serve the dessert last.
54. quickly – Please take your seats quickly before the bell rings.
55. slept – The police chief had not slept for two days.
56. caught – My dad caught a very bad cold from someone at work.
57. sew – My aunt likes to sew her own clothes.
58. writing – The author is writing a new book about parakeets.
59. under – When it’s raining, I like to stand under an umbrella.
60. sunny – Since it’s so warm and sunny outside, let’s go to the beach.
61. flies – My new kite flies really well.
62. coming – When will Aunt Ann be coming for dinner?
63. summer – Last summer we drove to the ocean.
64. won’t – The store won’t be open until 10 A.M.
65. suitcase – I am allowed to take only one suitcase on the airplane.
66. match – Mom asked me to match up all of our odd socks.

- 67. spread – Harry likes to spread a lot of peanut butter on his toast.
- 68. marches – The high school band marches in perfect step.
- 69. biggest – This year's fair is the biggest one yet.
- 70. very – I am very excited to be here today!
- 71. lively – They played lively music at the square dance.
- 72. said – The teacher said we should work quietly.
- 73. agree – Bob and Joe agree on their favorite football teams.
- 74. zero – The losing team scored zero points during the game.
- 75. laugh – Clowns always make me laugh.
- 76. forgotten – The dog barked because I'd forgotten to feed him.
- 77. I'll – I'll be home as soon as the baseball game is finished.
- 78. heard – Have you heard about the big snowstorm?
- 79. build – I like to build interesting shapes with blocks.
- 80. every – Every person has a special talent.
- 81. between – I found an old leaf between the pages of a book.
- 82. junk – To me, some things sold at yard sales look like junk.
- 83. sore – His muscles were sore from lifting heavy bricks all day.
- 84. aboard – The captain asked all passengers to climb aboard the ship.
- 85. calf – The newborn calf stayed close to its mother.
- 86. know – We know the best route to the coast.
- 87. happen – What will happen after we open the door?
- 88. movie – I really like the newest Disney movie.
- 89. only – Shelly is the only one who knows the answer.

- 90. people – Lots of people are expected to attend the concert.
- 91. before – Be sure to wash your hands before dinner.
- 92. other – The dog ran the other way.
- 93. half – Would you like the other half of my apple?
- 94. front – Please write your name on the front of your paper.
- 95. friend – My best friend is moving to California.
- 96. mouth – The dentist asked me to open my mouth.
- 97. wrote – Sally wrote a letter to her cousin.
- 98. tries – Dad always tries to make me laugh in the car.
- 99. fences – We built new fences around the doghouse.
- 100. twelve - There are twelve eggs in a dozen.
- 101. path – The path took us through the woods.
- 102. trouble – Henry continues to have trouble with his sore knee.
- 103. Friday – My favorite day of the week is Friday.
- 104. own – My brother says he wants to own a mansion someday.
- 105. carries – Jack carries ten bricks at one time.
- 106. everyone – Everyone knows how much I like pretzels!
- 107. another – Let's find another route to the zoo.
- 108. worn – Randy's jeans are worn out.
- 109. again – I'd like to read that book again.
- 110. closest – You are sitting closest to the window.
- 111. until – Don't stop until you've finished the whole course.
- 112. says – Dad says I should always do my best.

- 113. afraid – The neighborhood kids were all afraid of Mr. Gibson's big dog.
- 114. because – Sam went to the store because he was out of milk.
- 115. maybe – Mom says maybe we can visit the zoo tomorrow.
- 116. cannot – My little sister cannot reach the top of the table.
- 117. doesn't – Bob doesn't want to go swimming.
- 118. young – My little sister is too young to ride a roller coaster.
- 119. heart – We put a big red heart on the door for Valentine's Day.
- 120. brushes - The hair salon cleans dozens of brushes every day.
- 121. picnic – Let's go to the park for a picnic.
- 122. heavy – I can't lift this rock because it's too heavy.
- 123. Monday – Our school week begins on Monday.
- 124. picture – The artist painted a picture of the flowers.
- 125. area – You'll find a lot of ski slopes in this area.
- 126. shelves – These shelves hold over 3,000 books.
- 127. tenth – The tenth letter of the alphabet is J.
- 128. morning – Our rooster crows every morning.
- 129. Thursday – Our class has music every Thursday.
- 130. across – The bridge is the best way to go across the river.
- 131. Saturday – We eat waffles for breakfast every Saturday.
- 132. foil – Mom covered the leftover food with foil.
- 133. shiny – The shiny coin sparkled on the cement.
- 134. whole – He ate the whole pizza by himself.
- 135. used – We like to shop for used furniture.

136. Tuesday – Tuesday marks the beginning of spring.
137. cents – One dime is worth ten cents.
138. everything – Everything in the store was on sale.
139. you're – You're the only person in the world who is just like you!
140. wiggle – It's fun to wiggle my loose tooth.
141. really – The soup is really hot!
142. streak – Please don't leave a streak on the window when you wash it.
143. grinned – He grinned from ear to ear when he opened the gift.
144. something – We want to do something special this weekend.
145. himself – If my baby brother reaches the scissors, he could hurt himself.
146. guess – It's hard to guess what tomorrow's weather will be.
147. collect – Bryce began to collect old pennies when he was five years old.
148. eyes – My eyes are red from cutting the onions.
149. straight – The worker arranged the cans in a straight row.
150. eleven – Eleven is one less than a dozen.
151. climb – The cat can climb a tree very quickly.
152. often – How often do you visit the ocean?
153. anywhere – Have you seen my glasses anywhere?
154. terrible – The rotten potatoes smell terrible!
155. thirteen – There are thirteen doughnuts in a baker's dozen.
156. second – The runner finished in second place.
157. active – The sick puppy was not very active.
158. breakfast – It's best to eat a good breakfast every morning.

- 159. eight – Four plus four equals eight.
- 160. believe – I believe it is best to always tell the truth.
- 161. style – My mom always wears the latest style of shoes.
- 162. guard – The bank hired a nighttime security guard.
- 163. fourteen – Two times seven is fourteen.
- 164. voice – Your voice is easy to recognize on the phone.
- 165. actor – Ben hopes to be a famous actor someday.
- 166. fifteen – The directions said to bake the muffins for fifteen minutes.
- 167. lonely – The college student felt lonely the first time she moved away from home.
- 168. stretch – It feels good to stretch in the morning.
- 169. together – Let's ride together to the store.
- 170. dear – My neighbor is a dear, elderly woman.
- 171. answer – If you know the answer, please raise your hand.
- 172. crumble – This cookie will crumble when you try to eat it.
- 173. mistake – My first mistake was not reading the directions.
- 174. doctor – I went to the doctor when I was ill.
- 175. busy – Uncle Joe keeps very busy with his work.
- 176. cities – We visited the cities of Dallas and Fort Worth.
- 177. stapler – You'll need to fill the stapler before you finish assembling the reports.
- 178. aunt – My aunt is visiting us from Canada.
- 179. written – Your report must be written in ink.
- 180. beggar – The beggar was cold and hungry.
- 181. healthy – The new parents were thankful for their healthy baby.

- 182. library – I go to the library once a week.
- 183. useful – A can opener is a very useful gadget.
- 184. January – We often get snow in January.
- 185. except – My little brother likes all vegetables except spinach.
- 186. sixty – Sixty is the sum of twenty and forty.
- 187. nickel – A nickel is worth five cents.
- 188. earth – The earth revolves around the sun once a year.
- 189. mirror – I looked in the mirror to check my hair.
- 190. soften – The recipe says to soften the bread crumbs in milk.
- 191. usually – We usually go to my grandma's house on Sunday.
- 192. squirt – The leaky hose will squirt water until it is repaired.
- 193. imagine – Let's imagine a beautiful day at the beach.
- 194. honor – The dinner was held in honor of her birthday.
- 195. seventy – My grandfather will be seventy years old next month.
- 196. wherever – Wherever you go on vacation, I'm sure you'll have a great time.
- 197. interested – Sheila is interested in taking computer classes.
- 198. can't – I can't find my glasses.
- 199. quiet – It's always quiet at the library.
- 200. chose – He chose the blue shirt, not the brown shirt.
- 201. crayon – I like to color with a sharpened crayon.
- 202. easier – It's easier to pull weeds in damp soil than in dry soil.
- 203. carrying – Are you carrying a heavy backpack?
- 204. juice – Orange juice is my favorite breakfast drink.

- 205. electric – We use an electric pencil sharpener.
- 206. studying – Tomorrow we'll be studying new spelling words.
- 207. knight – The knight rode a black horse into the forest.
- 208. drawer – My jeans are in the bottom drawer of my dresser.
- 209. forty – We need forty cups and plates for the party.
- 210. builder – Every builder in town buys his supplies at my dad's hardware.
- 211. beautiful – It's a beautiful day for a picnic.
- 212. fifty – Two quarters are worth fifty cents.
- 213. chimneys – Several chimneys in the old neighborhood were starting to crumble.
- 214. camera – Dad takes good pictures with his digital camera.
- 215. wrist – Sonya sprained her wrist doing a cartwheel.
- 216. December – December is the last month of the year.
- 217. allowance – Jake receives five dollars every week for an allowance.
- 218. hour – We waited for one hour at the doctor's office.
- 219. damage – The windstorm caused widespread damage.
- 220. husband – Paula's husband works at a bank.
- 221. angel – Sara played the part of an angel in the Christmas play.
- 222. October – Halloween is in October.
- 223. metal – The jewelry was made from a special type of metal.
- 224. equals – Three plus five equals eight.
- 225. nineteen - Twenty people were invited to the party, but only nineteen came.
- 226. rough – The road was very rough because of its many potholes.
- 227. fountain – Water from the drinking fountain is cold and refreshing.

- 228. companies – Three companies donated toys to needy children.
- 229. neighbor – My neighbor bakes the best cookies!
- 230. August – Our school year begins in August.
- 231. keys – The car dealer gave the keys to the new owner.
- 232. quite – I'm quite sure I put my book on the table.
- 233. rising – Fewer people traveled on vacation because of rising gas prices.
- 234. earliest – The earliest I can be at your house is 8 P.M.
- 235. September – We rake a lot of leaves in September.
- 236. nervous – My cat gets nervous in thunderstorms.
- 237. thirty – Ten plus twenty is thirty.
- 238. famous – A famous actress visited our restaurant.
- 239. remember – Alice could not remember where she put her purse.
- 240. February – Valentine's Day is in February.
- 241. surprise – It's fun to plan a surprise party for a friend.
- 242. Wednesday – Mom always shops on Wednesday.
- 243. twenty – Twenty students in our class signed up to go on the trip.
- 244. hungry – I'm so hungry, I could eat a horse!
- 245. double – I ordered a double scoop of chocolate ice cream.
- 246. tomorrow – The teacher asked us to do the homework by tomorrow.
- 247. grocery – I like to shop at the grocery store down the street.
- 248. important – Don't miss this important message.
- 249. November – We celebrate Thanksgiving in November.
- 250. handsome – Mom always tells my brother that he's very handsome.

- 251. families – Several families held yard sales together.
- 252. shouldn't – It shouldn't be a problem to get to school on time.
- 253. sixth – My aunt teaches sixth grade.
- 254. bought – We bought a new table at the furniture store.
- 255. hospital – Joe went to the hospital to visit his grandmother.
- 256. feather – A feather can tickle your skin.
- 257. happiest – Her wedding day was the happiest day of her life.
- 258. engine – The engine on the old truck was hard to start in winter.
- 259. calves – Three of the cows had calves at the same time.
- 260. choice – Making the right choice isn't always easy.
- 261. monkeys – Five monkeys climbed the ladders in their cage at the zoo.
- 262. ninth – The baseball game was tied in the ninth inning.
- 263. howl – Have you ever heard a coyote howl at night?
- 264. kitchen – The kitchen is the friendliest room in the house.
- 265. movement – I saw the movement of our dog out of the corner of my eye.
- 266. eighty – Forty plus forty is eighty.
- 267. knock – Since the doorbell is broken, you'll need to knock on the door.
- 268. grown – Grandma says I have grown a lot since the last time she saw me.
- 269. fourth – We had to leave the football game in the fourth quarter.
- 270. sneeze – Spicy foods make me sneeze.
- 271. either – Either Jim or Jane will need to make a phone call.
- 272. fifth – My favorite chapter in this book is the fifth one.
- 273. laughter – You could hear the guests' laughter all the way down the street.

274. shoulder – He pushed up against the closed door with his shoulder.
275. continue – Let's continue this discussion after lunch.
276. pudding – Chocolate pudding is my favorite.
277. knead – The baker will knead the bread dough before putting it in the pan.
278. pioneer – Some pioneer families traveled in covered wagons.
279. tropical – There are many palm trees on the tropical island.
280. yesterday – I finished my homework from yesterday.
281. drought – The creek dried up because of the drought.
282. avenue – The street on which I live is called an avenue.
283. bandage – The nurse wrapped a bandage on his wound.
284. cardboard – My gift came inside a large cardboard box.
285. disappear – A lot of food will disappear if my big brother is really hungry!
286. worried – Mom was worried when her friend did not answer the phone.
287. lying – The jury believed the witness was lying.
288. pennies – She saved 85 pennies in her piggy bank.
289. sandwich – My favorite kind of sandwich is peanut butter and jelly.
290. skeleton – We saw a gigantic dinosaur skeleton at the museum.
291. suddenly – The wind suddenly blew down the old barn.
292. cottage – Our family has a summer cottage on the lake.
293. whistle – I love the sound of a distant train whistle.
294. quarter – I have three nickels and one quarter in my pocket.
295. scariest – That was the scariest movie I've ever seen!
296. urge – Few people can resist the urge to taste a freshly-baked cinnamon roll.

297. peaceful – We enjoyed a peaceful day alone at the beach.
298. sauce – Grandma’s spaghetti sauce is everyone’s favorite.
299. striped – Our striped cat thinks she’s a big tiger.
300. warn – The weather forecaster tried to warn folks about the blizzard.
301. decorate – Dan and Tina plan to decorate the baby’s room.
302. question – If you don’t understand my explanation, please ask me a question.
303. cymbal – The drummer hit the cymbal with a loud crash at the end of the song.
304. county – The courthouse is in the center of our county.
305. payment – Jan always makes her house payment on time.
306. object – Find an object in the room that is green and blue.
307. remove – Please remove your shoes before walking on the white carpeting.
308. explode – The unopened pop can might explode if you leave it in the freezer.
309. burying – Our dog has been burying bones all over the backyard.
310. captain – David was chosen captain of the football team.
311. toward – If you walk toward my cat very slowly, she won’t run from you.
312. finally – I finally finished cleaning my room!
313. exactly – You found exactly the right answer to this difficult problem.
314. coffee – Mom likes coffee without caffeine.
315. valleys – The valleys are filled with green grass and fertile soil.
316. curtain – The curtain opened as the orchestra began to play.
317. photograph – We were glad to find a photograph of my great-great-grandfather.
318. reserve – Mona will reserve the banquet hall for the party.
319. careful – You can’t be too careful when removing hot food from the oven.

320. women – The three women met for lunch.
321. enough – Mom says there is never enough time in a day.
322. memorize – We should memorize the directions for making lemonade.
323. wrecked – Because the ship was wrecked in the storm, it sank in the ocean.
324. nothing – If you eat all the vegetables, there will be nothing left for your sister.
325. opposite – The opposite of *up* is *down*.
326. vowel – The vowel in the word *sink* is the letter i.
327. careless – By proofreading your paper, you can often catch careless mistakes.
328. board – The board used to build the bench was six feet long.
329. clothes – Mark's clothes were dirty because he played in the mud.
330. bruise – I have a big bruise on my knee because I fell down the stairs.
331. expect – We expect the package to arrive tomorrow.
332. favorite – My favorite subject has always been math.
333. symbol – The Statue of Liberty is one symbol of freedom.
334. fashion – Lisa always wears the latest fashion.
335. garbage – We take the garbage out every Monday night.
336. tighten – Be sure to tighten the lid on the milk before you put it away.
337. grounded – All flights were grounded due to the dense fog.
338. countries – Three countries joined together on a new trade agreement.
339. cricket – We heard the large cricket chirping at night.
340. friendliness– Our neighborhood is known for its friendliness to newcomers.
341. doubtful – I am doubtful that anyone will be out in this bad weather.
342. desert – The ride through the desert was long and hot.

- 343. dinosaur – We enjoyed seeing the dinosaur fossils in the museum.
- 344. effort – Make every effort to be prepared for emergencies.
- 345. government – Top government officials met to discuss the war.
- 346. celebration – The New Year's celebration was a lot of fun.
- 347. daughter – Sarah's daughter looks and acts exactly like Sarah.
- 348. syllable – Young kids usually learn to spell words of one syllable first.
- 349. dictionaries – You can check the meaning of a word in any of our dictionaries.
- 350. guest – I'd love to be the guest of the Queen.
- 351. determine – Let's determine the best plan of action.
- 352. promising – The weather looks promising for a picnic today.
- 353. received – We received the good news that we'd won a big prize.
- 354. column – Please write the numbers from 1 to 10 in the left column.
- 355. vanilla – My favorite ice cream flavor is vanilla.
- 356. capitol – The state senators met in the capitol building.
- 357. wound – This wound may require stitches.
- 358. critical – The patient was listed in critical condition.
- 359. height – The height of the ceiling in the ballroom was 20 feet.
- 360. instrumental – Jack was instrumental in getting the new project approved.
- 361. delicious – This apple pie is delicious!
- 362. hopeful – I am hopeful that I will finish the big project tonight.
- 363. eighth – My brother is an eighth grader this year.
- 364. hoarse – We were hoarse after cheering at the football game.
- 365. vanish – Mom says the food always seems to vanish when Uncle Lee visits us.

366. division – Division is the opposite of multiplication.
367. alarm - My alarm clock goes off at seven o'clock each morning.
368. arrangement – The teacher made a new seating arrangement for her class.
369. handling – We paid extra for shipping and handling.
370. whose – Mom wondered whose books were left in the car.
371. leafy – The salad made of dark leafy vegetables was very nutritious.
372. attention – It's hard to pay attention in school when you are really sleepy.
373. guide – Use the guide words to help you look up words in the dictionary.
374. knuckle – This ring is stuck on my knuckle.
375. listen – You can hear the birds chirping if you listen carefully.
376. pickle – A big dill pickle was served with the sandwich.
377. length – The length of time between her visits to the doctor was six months.
378. rely – You can't always rely on the weather report.
379. poisoning – Matt's illness was caused by lead poisoning.
380. control – The race car driver struggled to control his car on the track.
381. statement – The doctor signed a statement so I could be excused from school.
382. several – Several of our friends are coming over for dinner.
383. mayor – Our mayor is organizing volunteers to work in his office.
384. steamy – The bathroom was steamy after my long, hot shower.
385. practice – All the practice paid off when the team won the championship.
386. postage – The large envelope required extra postage.
387. regional – Brenda finished second in the regional spelling bee.
388. manufacture – This factory will manufacture a new car model next year.

389. similar – Your idea is very similar to mine.
390. pleasant – Aunt Teri’s visit was a pleasant surprise.
391. against – There were six votes for the plan and three votes against it.
392. staircase – The old staircase was narrow and creaky.
393. ruin – Spilling bleach on your clothes will ruin them.
394. trapeze – We loved watching the trapeze act at the circus.
395. measurement – Liters are used for liquid measurement.
396. impossible – It’s impossible to know what *could* have happened.
397. salad – The chef served fruit salad with oranges, kiwi and bananas.
398. material – The jeans were made from very heavy material.
399. suggestion – His suggestion to postpone the meeting was a good one.
400. science – I like to do experiments in science class.
401. television – We gave our old television to the homeless shelter.
402. syrup – We put real maple syrup on our pancakes.
403. rescues – At the end of the movie, the hero rescues the little girl.
404. weight – Trucks have to follow weight limits on most roads and highways.
405. triangles – A square can be divided into two triangles.
406. probably – We will probably stay up late on Friday night.
407. split – The jury was split on whether or not to convict the man of the crime.
408. business – Mom’s website business is going very well.
409. supplying – The bakery will be supplying the cake for the wedding.
410. different – Rosa plays in three different movies.
411. surroundings – It’s best to do your homework in quiet surroundings.

- 412. polish – I helped Dad wax and polish his car.
- 413. sandal – When my sandal broke, I had to walk barefooted.
- 414. radios – We could hear three radios playing at one time on our street.
- 415. phase –The first phase of the building is almost finished.
- 416. schedule - The flight delay changed our entire vacation schedule.
- 417. pleasure – My neighbor finds much pleasure in her garden.
- 418. minor – It's best not to get too upset about minor problems.
- 419. scent – When a skunk feels scared, it gives off an unmistakable scent.
- 420. rarely – A kangaroo is rarely seen in my country.
- 421. although – Although we've never met before, I feel like I already know you.
- 422. inventor – Thomas Edison was an important inventor.
- 423. necessary – It is necessary that we go outside during a fire drill.
- 424. capital – Each sentence should begin with a capital letter.
- 425. unknown – An unknown person gave a large sum of money to our school.
- 426. vacation – I've always wanted to go to Florida for vacation.
- 427. amusement – The amusement park will be open all summer.
- 428. chemical – David received special training in handling chemical spills.
- 429. tasty – This vegetable pizza is very tasty!
- 430. chocolate – We like to drink hot chocolate in the winter.
- 431. protection – Hats, boots and gloves provide good protection from the cold.
- 432. amendment – Congress wants to pass a new amendment to our constitution.
- 433. happily – I will happily help you spread your good news!
- 434. messages – I left three messages on her answering machine.

- 435. paragraph – Each paragraph should contain one main idea.
- 436. rhythm – The drummer played a strong rhythm for the band's new song.
- 437. stomach – I wonder if anyone heard my stomach growl.
- 438. separate – The fourth and fifth graders eat in separate lunchrooms.
- 439. ought – I ought to finish my chores before I watch television.
- 440. sweater – Sally was cold, so she put on a sweater.
- 441. numeral – The Roman numeral for 5 is a V.
- 442. tornado – The tornado damaged the high school and fire station.
- 443. straighten – Mr. Wilson asked us to straighten the row of chairs.
- 444. tissue – Be sure you have a tissue in your pocket when you have a cold.
- 445. swollen – The doctor could see that her tonsils were swollen.
- 446. earnest – I will try in earnest to complete this assignment on time.
- 447. source – A pinched nerve was the source of his back pain.
- 448. slippery – The sign said the road would be slippery when wet.
- 449. shadows – It's fun to make animal shapes with finger shadows.
- 450. windy – March is often a very windy month.
- 451. wheelchair – Grandma uses a wheelchair because her legs are weak.
- 452. recently – We recently bought a new sofa.
- 453. poem – I'd like to write a poem about the silly things that happen to me.
- 454. vane – The weather vane on top of the barn spun around in the high wind.
- 455. touch – Be careful not to touch the flat screen monitor with your fingers.
- 456. gazing – My dad sat quietly, gazing in the distance.
- 457. weekend – We're going to a basketball game this weekend.

458. typewriter – The author likes to type his stories on a typewriter, not a computer.
459. carefully – Drive carefully on snow-covered roads.
460. minus – Five minus two equals three.
461. consonant – The first consonant in the alphabet is the letter B.
462. noisy – It was very noisy at the championship game.
463. occurs – The letter e occurs in words more often than any other letter in English.
464. vault – The bank keeps one million dollars of cash in its vault.
465. meant – I meant to ask you yesterday about your new pet.
466. knowledge – When you read a lot of books, your knowledge is sure to increase.
467. simply – Let's decorate very simply and use only balloons.
468. inquire – Mom called customer service to inquire about the bill.
469. temperature – The temperature today is ten degrees lower than yesterday.
470. especially – I am especially fond of my cousins, Kyle and Kelsie.
471. patient – It's hard to be patient when something wonderful is about to happen.
472. sailor – The sailor had been away at sea for six months.
473. heroes – Fire fighters and police officers are everyday heroes.
474. reign – Queen Elizabeth has had a very long reign.
475. scarcely – There is scarcely enough water in the bathtub to wash your feet.
476. acquire – Some people try not to acquire very many possessions.
477. believable – She received a lot of votes because her message was so believable.
478. strengthen – These exercises will help to strengthen your legs.
479. legal – It is not legal to drive at age 10.
480. manager – The store manager hired three new workers.

- 481. concern – My doctor showed great concern over my high fever.
- 482. champion – The champion steer won the grand prize at the fair.
- 483. edition – The afternoon edition of the paper included the latest news.
- 484. emptiness – The emptiness of the open prairie surprised the city dwellers.
- 485. fossil – We found an interesting fossil on the beach.
- 486. honorable – For Donna, the honorable solution was to tell the truth.
- 487. educate – Ann likes to help educate people who move to her city as immigrants.
- 488. encyclopedia – Our encyclopedia set has ten volumes.
- 489. freight – One truck can carry several tons of freight.
- 490. hamburger – I like the taste of a grilled hamburger.
- 491. beautifully – The wedding dress turned out beautifully!
- 492. disagreement – Our disagreement has not hurt our friendship.
- 493. excitement – It's hard for Sam to control the excitement about his birthday.
- 494. forgiveness – Shelly asked for Tom's forgiveness for the unkind words she said.
- 495. forgetting – I keep forgetting where I put my keys.
- 496. concentration – Glassblowers must work with great concentration.
- 497. addresses – We need addresses for everyone we want to invite to the party.
- 498. altogether – Three of us spent \$100 altogether at the electronics store.
- 499. cradle – Jack made a beautiful cradle for his newborn baby.
- 500. exploration – There has been limited exploration for oil in some regions.
- 501. creative – Emily makes creative gifts every year for her friends.
- 502. prevention - The crime prevention officer teaches classes on safety.
- 503. cereal – My dad's favorite kind of cereal is corn flakes.

504. collapse – If we build this house of cards any taller, I’m sure it will collapse.
505. amphibian – A frog is an amphibian because it lives both in and out of water.
506. conclude – This meeting will conclude at 8 P.M.
507. automobile – The automobile is probably the most popular form of transportation.
508. invitation – We received an invitation to my cousin’s graduation party.
509. assignment – The math assignment is due tomorrow.
510. confuse – It’s easy to confuse words like *then* and *than*.
511. prairie – We saw hundreds of cattle grazing on the prairie.
512. potato – We planted six potato plants in our garden.
513. enormous – The blue whale is the most enormous mammal of all.
514. exchange – Mom went back to the store to exchange the sweater.
515. forecast – The weather forecast calls for sunshine tomorrow.
516. gracious – Eve is very gracious, even when she loses a game.
517. insert – You must insert only quarters in this vending machine.
518. predict – It’s hard to predict which team will win this game.
519. instance – This is one instance where we should stay inside.
520. absence – You’ll need a doctor’s note to be excused for your absence.
521. beetle – A beetle was eating a cabbage leave in our garden.
522. condition – The antique books were still in excellent condition.
523. acquainted – I want to get acquainted with our new neighbors.
524. anchor – The captain dropped the ship’s anchor during the storm.
525. artistic – The sculpture was a fine example of artistic expression.
526. gesture – Please accept this gesture of good will from our country to yours.

527. decimal – We learned how to change fractions to decimal numbers.
528. lawyer – Betsy is in law school, studying to become a lawyer.
529. pumpkins – We carve big pumpkins each year at Halloween.
530. penguin – The penguin family waddled into the water.
531. performance – The violinist gave his best performance ever.
532. wrestle – Jim continues to wrestle with the decision of changing jobs.
533. strategy – I learned a great strategy for winning at checkers.
534. wolves – Wolves are the largest members of the dog family.
535. tomatoes – Mary grows her own tomatoes and uses them to make salsa.
536. recommend – The teacher likes to recommend good books.
537. twentieth – This is the twentieth year of Rob and Amy's business partnership.
538. system – The accountant used a new system to record income and expenses.
539. unite – We all need to unite and support our new president.
540. naughty – Most young children know when they've been naughty.
541. irritate – Wearing scratchy fabrics can irritate your skin.
542. complication – Because of the legal complication, her court case was thrown out.
543. adorable – The new kitten was simply adorable!
544. courage – It sometimes requires courage to do the right thing.
545. intermission – We'll buy more popcorn at intermission.
546. prompt – Keith is prompt for every appointment.
547. fantastic – The most fantastic thing happened when pigs fell from the sky!
548. immediately – When the smoke detector sounded, we immediately left the house.
549. independence – The United States fought for independence from Great Britain.

550. obstacle – The only obstacle to her success as a doctor was her fear of blood.
551. exhibit – The art exhibit featured paintings from French artists.
552. astronaut – Danny wants to be an astronaut and fly to the moon.
553. extinct – The dodo bird has been extinct for a long time.
554. atmosphere – Our atmosphere contains oxygen and carbon dioxide.
555. algae – The algae washed up on shore, covering the shells and sand.
556. character – My favorite character in the cartoon was a chipmunk.
557. cashier – The cashier at the convenience store was very friendly.
558. deceive – The would-be thief tried to deceive the bank teller.
559. interrupt – It's not polite to interrupt someone when they are talking.
560. luxury – The millionaire's luxury items include a yacht and a home in Paris.
561. lightning – The tree was split in two when it was struck by lightning.
562. restaurant – Our family likes to eat at this Chinese restaurant.
563. scholar – The scholar spends much of his time doing reading and research.
564. stationary – A two-ton boulder is a stationary object.
565. symphony – My favorite symphony was composed by Bach.
566. theater – We saw a movie at the theater last weekend.
567. thorough – After a thorough search of the car, we still could not find the map.
568. extinguish – Firefighters worked through the night to extinguish the flames.
569. tournament – Thirty-two teams were scheduled to play in the tournament.
570. unnecessary – It's unnecessary to apologize for your hiccups.
571. sheriff – The county sheriff hired two new deputies.
572. whirlpool – Mr. Johnson gets relief from his arthritis by taking whirlpool baths.

573. brochure – We read a colorful brochure about Australia.
574. boundary – It is unclear where the boundary lies because the fence is gone.
575. unfortunately – Unfortunately, we were unable to go to the airport with my dad.
576. chauffeur – Mrs. Smith's chauffeur drives her to the hair salon every Friday.
577. guacamole – We ordered guacamole with chips as an appetizer.
578. precipitation – Sleet and snow are two forms of precipitation.
579. embarrass – I won't embarrass Beth by calling her by her real name.
580. jaguar – The jaguar was on the prowl, looking for something to eat.
581. commitment – Stan's boss was impressed by Stan's commitment to his job.
582. sulfur – The sulfur was used to make kitchen matches.
583. controlling – The kicker was having a hard time controlling the ball in the wind.
584. distinguished – After years of distinguished service, the lieutenant retired.
585. questionnaire – Please fill out this questionnaire about your favorite foods.
586. boulevard – The city planted new trees along our boulevard.
587. badminton – Paul was unable to play badminton because he lost his racket.
588. acquisition – The firm decided to expand after its acquisition of additional space.
589. meringue – Lemon meringue pie is a specialty at Faith's bakery.
590. misdemeanor – Ted received only a fine since his crime was a misdemeanor.
591. paralysis – After the stroke, Henry's legs suffered from paralysis.
592. threatening – The threatening sky meant the storm was about to start.
593. opossum – We saw an opossum family scurry across the road.
594. reservoir – There's a large reservoir at the site of the dam.
595. typhoon – The island was completely flooded in the typhoon.

596. afghan – Esther knitted an afghan for each of her grandchildren.
597. rhinoceros – We're hoping to see a rhinoceros when we go on safari.
598. cologne – This smells like a very expensive cologne.
599. pneumonia – The patient had a difficult time recovering from pneumonia.
600. zucchini – We like to eat zucchini grilled with onions.

THE SPELLING BEE TOOLBOX™

Alphabetical Listing of Our 600 Spelling Bee Words

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. aboard | 41. avenue | 81. careful |
| 2. absence | 42. badminton | 82. carefully |
| 3. acquainted | 43. balloon | 83. careless |
| 4. acquire | 44. bandage | 84. carries |
| 5. acquisition | 45. beautiful | 85. carrying |
| 6. across | 46. beautifully | 86. cashier |
| 7. active | 47. because | 87. caught |
| 8. actor | 48. beetle | 88. celebration |
| 9. addresses | 49. before | 89. cents |
| 10. adorable | 50. beggar | 90. cereal |
| 11. afghan | 51. believable | 91. champion |
| 12. afraid | 52. believe | 92. character |
| 13. again | 53. between | 93. chauffeur |
| 14. against | 54. biggest | 94. cheese |
| 15. agree | 55. blind | 95. chemical |
| 16. algae | 56. board | 96. children |
| 17. alarm | 57. bought | 97. chimneys |
| 18. allowance | 58. boulevard | 98. chocolate |
| 19. almost | 59. boundary | 99. choice |
| 20. although | 60. boxes | 100. chose |
| 21. altogether | 61. bread | 101. cities |
| 22. always | 62. breakfast | 102. classes |
| 23. amendment | 63. bright | 103. clear |
| 24. amphibian | 64. brochure | 104. climb |
| 25. amusement | 65. bruise | 105. closest |
| 26. anchor | 66. brushes | 106. clothes |
| 27. angel | 67. build | 107. coffee |
| 28. another | 68. builder | 108. collapse |
| 29. answer | 69. burying | 109. collect |
| 30. anywhere | 70. business | 110. cologne |
| 31. area | 71. busy | 111. column |
| 32. arrangement | 72. calf | 112. coming |
| 33. artistic | 73. calves | 113. commitment |
| 34. assignment | 74. camera | 114. companies |
| 35. astronaut | 75. cannot | 115. complication |
| 36. atmosphere | 76. can't | 116. concentration |
| 37. attention | 77. capital | 117. concern |
| 38. August | 78. capitol | 118. conclude |
| 39. aunt | 79. captain | 119. condition |
| 40. automobile | 80. cardboard | 120. confuse |

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 121. consonant | 163. earliest | 205. February |
| 122. continue | 164. early | 206. fences |
| 123. control | 165. earnest | 207. fifteen |
| 124. controlling | 166. earth | 208. fifth |
| 125. cottage | 167. easier | 209. fifty |
| 126. countries | 168. edition | 210. finally |
| 127. county | 169. educate | 211. flies |
| 128. courage | 170. effort | 212. foil |
| 129. cradle | 171. eight | 213. forecast |
| 130. crayon | 172. eighth | 214. forgetting |
| 131. creative | 173. eighty | 215. forgiveness |
| 132. cricket | 174. either | 216. forgotten |
| 133. critical | 175. electric | 217. forty |
| 134. crumble | 176. eleven | 218. fossil |
| 135. curtain | 177. embarrass | 219. fourteen |
| 136. cymbal | 178. emptiness | 220. fourth |
| 137. damage | 179. encyclopedia | 221. fountain |
| 138. daughter | 180. engine | 222. freight |
| 139. dear | 181. enormous | 223. Friday |
| 140. deceive | 182. enough | 224. friend |
| 141. December | 183. equals | 225. front |
| 142. decimal | 184. especially | 226. friendliness |
| 143. decorate | 185. every | 227. garbage |
| 144. delicious | 186. everyone | 228. gazing |
| 145. desert | 187. everything | 229. gesture |
| 146. determine | 188. exactly | 230. government |
| 147. dictionaries | 189. except | 231. gracious |
| 148. different | 190. exchange | 232. grinned |
| 149. dinner | 191. excitement | 233. grocery |
| 150. dinosaur | 192. exhibit | 234. grounded |
| 151. disagreement | 193. expect | 235. grown |
| 152. disappear | 194. explode | 236. guacamole |
| 153. distinguished | 195. exploration | 237. guard |
| 154. division | 196. extinct | 238. guess |
| 155. doctor | 197. extinguish | 239. guest |
| 156. doesn't | 198. eyes | 240. guide |
| 157. dollar | 199. families | 241. half |
| 158. done | 200. famous | 242. hamburger |
| 159. double | 201. fantastic | 243. handling |
| 160. doubtful | 202. fashion | 244. handsome |
| 161. drawer | 203. favorite | 245. happen |
| 162. drought | 204. feather | 246. happiest |

247. happily	289. knead	331. mirror
248. healthy	290. knee	332. misdemeanor
249. heard	291. knew	333. mistake
250. heart	292. knight	334. Monday
251. heavy	293. knock	335. monkeys
252. height	294. know	336. more
253. heroes	295. knowledge	337. morning
254. himself	296. knuckle	338. mouth
255. hoarse	297. lamb	339. movie
256. honor	298. laugh	340. movement
257. honorable	299. laughter	341. naughty
258. hopeful	300. law	342. necessary
259. hospital	301. lawyer	343. neighbor
260. hour	302. leafy	344. nervous
261. howl	303. legal	345. newspaper
262. hungry	304. length	346. nickel
263. hurt	305. library	347. nineteen
264. husband	306. lightning	348. ninth
265. I'll	307. listen	349. noisy
266. I've	308. litter	350. none
267. imagine	309. lively	351. nothing
268. immediately	310. lonely	352. November
269. important	311. luxury	353. numeral
270. impossible	312. lying	354. object
271. independence	313. mail	355. obstacle
272. inquire	314. manager	356. occur
273. insert	315. manufacture	357. October
274. instance	316. marches	358. offer
275. instrumental	317. match	359. often
276. interested	318. material	360. once
277. intermission	319. maybe	361. only
278. interrupt	320. mayor	362. opossum
279. inventor	321. meant	363. opposite
280. invitation	322. measurement	364. other
281. irritate	323. meat	365. ought
282. jaguar	324. memorize	366. own
283. January	325. meringue	367. paragraph
284. juice	326. merry	368. paralysis
285. June	327. messages	369. path
286. junk	328. metal	370. patient
287. keys	329. minor	371. payment
288. kitchen	330. minus	372. peaceful

373. penguin	417. reign	461. should
374. pennies	418. rely	462. shoulder
375. people	419. remember	463. shouldn't
376. performance	420. remove	464. similar
377. photograph	421. rescues	465. simply
378. phase	422. reserve	466. sitting
379. pickle	423. reservoir	467. sixth
380. picnic	424. restaurant	468. sixty
381. picture	425. rhinoceros	469. skeleton
382. piece	426. rhythm	470. sky
383. pioneer	427. rising	471. slept
384. pleasant	428. rode	472. slippery
385. pleasure	429. roll	473. sneeze
386. pneumonia	430. rough	474. soft
387. poem	431. ruin	475. soften
388. point	432. rule	476. someone
389. poisoning	433. runner	477. something
390. polish	434. said	478. son
391. potato	435. sailor	479. sore
392. postage	436. salad	480. source
393. practice	437. sandal	481. spent
394. prairie	438. sandwich	482. split
395. precipitation	439. Saturday	483. spread
396. predict	440. sauce	484. squirt
397. prevention	441. says	485. staircase
398. probably	442. scarcely	486. stale
399. promising	443. scariest	487. stapler
400. prompt	444. scent	488. statement
401. protection	445. schedule	489. stationary
402. pudding	446. scholar	490. steamy
403. pumpkins	447. school	491. stomach
404. quarter	448. science	492. straight
405. question	449. second	493. straighten
406. questionnaire	450. separate	494. strategy
407. quickly	451. September	495. streak
408. quiet	452. serve	496. strengthen
409. quite	453. seventh	497. stretch
410. radios	454. seventy	498. striped
411. rarely	455. several	499. studying
412. really	456. sew	500. style
413. received	457. shadows	501. suddenly
414. recently	458. shelves	502. suggestion
415. recommend	459. sheriff	503. suitcase
416. regional	460. shiny	504. sulfur

505. summer	537. tournament	569. warm
506. sunny	538. toward	570. warn
507. supplying	539. trapeze	571. Wednesday
508. surprise	540. triangles	572. weekend
509. surroundings	541. tries	573. weight
510. sweater	542. tropical	574. wheelchair
511. swollen	543. trouble	575. wherever
512. syllable	544. Tuesday	576. whirlpool
513. symbol	545. twelve	577. whistle
514. symphony	546. twentieth	578. whole
515. syrup	547. twenty	579. whose
516. system	548. typhoon	580. why
517. tasty	549. typewriter	581. wiggle
518. television	550. under	582. windy
519. temperature	551. unfortunately	583. wolves
520. tenth	552. unite	584. women
521. terrible	553. unknown	585. won't
522. that's	554. unnecessary	586. worn
523. theater	555. until	587. worried
524. there	556. urge	588. wound
525. thirteen	557. used	589. wrecked
526. thirty	558. useful	590. wrestle
527. thorough	559. usually	591. wrist
528. threatening	560. vacation	592. writing
529. Thursday	561. valleys	593. written
530. tighten	562. vane	594. wrote
531. tissue	563. vanilla	595. yesterday
532. together	564. vanish	596. you're
533. tomatoes	565. vault	597. young
534. tomorrow	566. very	598. your
535. tornado	567. voice	599. zero
536. touch	568. vowel	600. zucchini

THE SPELLING BEE TOOLBOX™

Super Challenge Words

If your spellers manage to breeze through all the words in our list above, use these 20 super-challenge words for your spelling bee. We've included the language of origin,* **primary** pronunciation, and part of speech, the most common definition and one sentence for each word.

Pronunciations

We've included the most popular pronunciations. Additional pronunciations may exist for some words. We've chosen to use very few special symbols and markings.

Pronunciation Guide:

(a) - as in *sad, tap, latch*
 (ā) - as in *a* in *pay, late, cape*
 (ä) - as in *father, hot*
 (e) - as in *led, set, deck*
 (ē) - as in *feel, deal, easy*
 (ə) - as in *about, confuse*

(i) - as in *lip, fish*
 (ī) - as in *tide, white, ripe*
 (ō) - as in *cone, rope, snow*
 (u) - as in *sun, umbrella*
 (oo) - as in *poodle*
 (yoo) - as in *bugle, uniform*

(g) – as in *gum, gorilla*

(t) - any letter inside parenthesis within another syllable may or may not be pronounced.

The main emphasis in each word belongs on the syllable in **bold** type.

1. plumage (**ploo**-mij) *Old French* noun: the feathers of a bird
The peacock showed off its colorful plumage.
2. mozzarella (mot-sə-**rel**-lə) *Italian* noun: a white, soft cheese
We asked for extra mozzarella on our pizza.
3. wrangle (**rang**-gəl) *Middle English* verb: to persistently argue, often loudly
The two men were known to wrangle for hours before coming to any agreement.
4. monotonous (mə-**not**-n-əs) *Greek* adjective: dull, boring, repetitive or limited to a narrow pitch range
The speaker's voice was so monotonous that it was hard for us to stay awake.
5. poinsettia (poin-**set**-ē-ə, or poin-**set**-ə) *new Latin* noun: colorful plant, usually with scarlet, pink or white blossoms
We gave Mom a large red poinsettia plant at Christmastime.

* Please note that every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of all information for each word. Occasionally, sources differ on some items.

6. quiche (kēsh) *French* noun: an unsweetened pie or pastry
The restaurant's most popular dish is spinach quiche.
7. exuberant (ig-**zoo**-ber-ənt) *Middle English* adjective: extremely enthusiastic
David was exuberant as he announced the birth of his son.
8. tarantula (tə-**ran**-chə-lə) *Latin, Italian* noun: one in a family of large hairy spiders
Even though the tarantula was safely contained in a cage, it still looked frightening.
9. quesadilla (kā-sə-**dē**-ə) *Spanish* noun: a tortilla with cheese and other ingredients, usually fried or grilled
My aunt served me a chicken quesadilla with salsa.
10. terrestrial (tə-**res**-trē-əl) *Latin* adjective: related to the earth
The science fiction movie contained all sorts of terrestrial creatures I could never imagine!
11. clique (klēk or klik) *French* noun: an exclusive group of people
Anna did not feel welcome in the clique of ninth grade girls.
12. fraudulent (fraw-jə-lənt) *Latin* adjective: deceptive or false
The insurance agent knew the man's claim was fraudulent.
13. oscillate (**os**-ə-lāt) *Latin* verb: to move back and forth
Please set the fan to oscillate so that everyone in the room will feel the breeze.
14. sassafras (**sas**-ə-fras) *Spanish* noun: a North American tree
As we walked past the line of sassafras, we could smell the fragrant bark.
15. pterodactyl (ter-ə-**dak**-til) *New Latin, Greek* noun: one of several extinct, flying reptiles
The museum exhibit showed a pterodactyl flying above a brontosaurus.
16. salmonella (sal-mə-**nel**-ə) *New Latin* noun: a kind of bacteria that can cause food poisoning
The sickness was traced to a restaurant whose eggs contained salmonella.
17. pachyderm (**pa**-ki-derm) *French and Greek* noun: a large mammal with a thick skin, especially the elephant, rhinoceros, or hippopotamus
The zookeeper needed special training to handle a pachyderm.

* Please note that every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of all information for each word. Occasionally, sources differ on some items.

18. sumptuous (**səmp**-choo-əs) *Latin* adjective: splendid, extravagant or luxurious
Our tour of the magnificent castle ended with a sumptuous feast.
19. scalpel (**skal**-pəl) *Latin* noun: a small, sharp knife use in surgical procedures
When the surgeon was ready to begin, she asked for a scalpel.
20. mahogany (mə-**hog**-ə-nē) *Exact origin unknown* noun: a tropical hardwood tree or the reddish brown wood from the tree
The antique bookcase was made from mahogany.



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FOR GRADES 3-5

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