

Spelling Bee

Spelling Bee- a competition for students in 1st grade through 6th grade. The students first compete in their respective classrooms. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winner of each grade will move to the school's spelling bee to compete for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners.

Spelling Bee General Rules: The student will be given a word to spell from a list of words, not necessarily in order. The Head Teacher for the event will determine the word order. If he/she misspells the word, the student must return to his/her desk or to the audience in the school spelling bee. When the competition is down to the last two students, to be declared the winner, Student A will be given a word. If Student A misspells the word, Student B will get a chance to spell the word correctly. If correct, Student B will be given another word to spell. If Student B spells the word correctly, this student will be declared the winner. If Student B misspells the word, then Student A will get another chance to spell a different word and the competition continues in this manner.

Spelling Bee Student Rules: Students should be quiet, seated, and not making any faces while the spelling bee is being conducted. All applause should be held unless someone gets out or the winners are declared. The students who are spelling the words are allowed to ask any or all of these questions of the judges:

1. Will you please repeat the word?
2. Can you use it in a sentence?
3. Can I have a definition?
4. Can I restart the word? (The student may restart the word, however, if they initially misspelled the word, even if they restart, and get it right, it will still be counted as incorrect. Ex. Word is cat. Student spells, "c-e- may I restart?" on restart spells "c-a-t". This is still incorrect. If however, student spells, "c-a-may I restart?" on restart spells "c-a-t". This would be considered correct.

Spelling Word List Rules:

1. When using a word in a sentence, judges should use it in the correct context. For example, the word is dog's. An incorrect sentence: "The dogs ran". A correct sentence: "the dog's paw is muddy."
2. When giving definitions- the words should not contain any clues of word derivative as this may give clues to spelling. For example, for the word perceptible- avoid using a definition such as able to "perceive", however, a definition such as "able to be seen" would be more appropriate.
3. When giving definitions such as words that are contracted such as "can't". incorrect definition: cannot. Correct definition: "unable to". Another example would be "he's". incorrect definition: "he is" correct definition, "male pronoun with verb to be".
4. Capitalization of a word is required when needed. Example word is Argentina. Student should say, "capital A-r-g-e-n-t-i-n-a."
5. Spaces for words should also be stated, otherwise, it is counted as incorrect. Example word: "bona fide". The student should spell "b-o-n-a, space, f-i-d-e."
6. Hyphenated words must also be stated or not stated. Some words can be correct either way- for example, mid-summer vs midsummer. Check-in vs Check in also could be correct depending on the context. Some words are always hyphenated like "father-in-law" and some are never like "upstream".

Spelling Bee Logistics

Teacher: heads the event.

Volunteers: 10-12 volunteer judges (2 for each class)

Volunteer Judge 1: says the words from the provided spelling word list.

Volunteer Judge 2: makes sure the word is spelled correctly.

Locations:

- Grade 1-6 classrooms
- Sanctuary for the school spelling bee

Supplies needed:

- List of words
- Table/Chair for judges
- Chairs for the contestants on stage or classroom desks for the class.

Times:

8:00am to 8:15 am-meet in office of sanctuary for preparation.

8:15am to 9:30am (parent judges needed in classrooms)

1:00pm-2:30pm (parent volunteers are NOT needed, but are welcome to come watch)

2:30pm-3:00pm- passing out of award ribbons for the winners and Benedictus.

Purpose/Job Descriptions:

Head Judge is the teacher for each respective class: primary role is to keep classroom in order and to deliver the winners' names to the office.

Committee chair: Recruits parent volunteers and acts as a liaison between teachers/staff/parents.

1. Ensures the parent volunteers understand their assignments/roles/responsibilities.
2. Ensures the parents have a list of words specific to that classroom
3. Works with the front office staff to ensure enough copies for each grade and parents.
4. Helps prepare space for conducting the school spelling bee as needed.

Parent volunteers:

1. Check-in at the front office and meet with committee chair.
2. Receives copy of the list of words for the grade that is assigned.
3. Promptly arrive in each classroom ready.
4. Follows along to ensure students spell the words correctly.
5. Be ready to use a word in a sentence or to provide a definition. This can be difficult at times and there will always be support for this. It is allowable to use electronic devices such as cell phones for assistance in this. There are also 2 judges per classroom and either can create the sentence or provide a definition (the two roles can also be divided so one can be prepared to give definitions with the phone while the other creates sentences). If both judges are stuck, the classroom teacher may also assist.
6. Any additional volunteer help will be requested by the committee chair or the teacher as any needs arise.

*****Top 3 winners from each grade will go on to the school wide spelling bee to be held from 1:00pm to 2:30pm. The Teacher Head Judge will notify the office of the top 3 winners from each class. The office will make ribbons and notify parents promptly of their child's winning as parents will be invited to watch their child in the school wide spelling bee.**