

## FAQ for Words of the Champions

### **What is *Words of the Champions*?**

*Words of the Champions* is the key study resource for students participating in the Scripps National Spelling Bee program. This list of 4,000 words presented in three difficulty levels helps students prepare for classroom, school, regional and national-level spelling bees.

### **How will spellers access the resource?**

*Words of the Champions* is accessible to schools that [enroll](#) in the Bee program. The spelling bee coordinator at any enrolled school can download *Words of the Champions* and other study materials when they log in to [spellingbee.com](https://spellingbee.com). There are also e-book and paperback versions available for purchase on [Amazon](#).



### **Do spellers in all grades need to learn all 4,000 words?**

Nested in *Words of the Champions* are 450 words, divided into grade levels 1-8, that make up the School Spelling Bee Study List. Spellers study those words for classroom and school spelling bees, often starting with the grade level that corresponds with their own. All words in the School Spelling Bee Study List can be found in the books included in the Bee's 2022 [Great Words, Great Works](#) reading program. These titles are engaging, vocabulary-rich, grade-appropriate books for elementary and middle school students. By reading the books, students can gain context and a deeper understanding of the words they are learning to spell this year.

### **Do spellers need to know word meanings in addition to spelling?**

The purpose of the Bee is to help students improve their spelling and increase their vocabularies. Students should learn words' meanings as part of their studies. For classroom and school-level bees, it is up to the teachers to determine if they want to include word meaning questions in their competitions. Resources and instructions for doing this are found within the *Classroom* and *School Pronouncer Guide* available to all enrolled schools. At the regional level, some sponsors include word meaning questions in their contests. At the national level, the Bee has challenged spellers with word meaning questions since 2013.

### **Can anyone get *Words of the Champions*?**

There are e-book and paperback versions available for purchase on Amazon. Additional study and competition materials are only available to schools that [enroll](#) in the Bee program.

### **Why should my school enroll if I can get the *Words of the Champions* on Amazon?**

Enrollment is required for school champions to advance to the regional competition, and comes with access to additional study and competition materials only available to enrolled schools. For example, the pronouncer guides for classroom and school spelling bees provide additional information such as pronunciation, part of speech and definition.

### **What is the official source for *Words of the Champions*?**

All words are entries in the Bee's official dictionary, [Merriam-Webster Unabridged](#).