



Scripps National Spelling Bee®

a guide for
educators
and schools

Beeloved since 1925

Enroll your school today!

By inspiring the exploration of words, the Scripps National Spelling Bee illuminates pathways to lifelong curiosity, celebrates academic achievement, and enriches communities.

**enroll starting
August 20, 2024**

spellingbee.com/enroll

Included!

Sample classroom
spelling activity

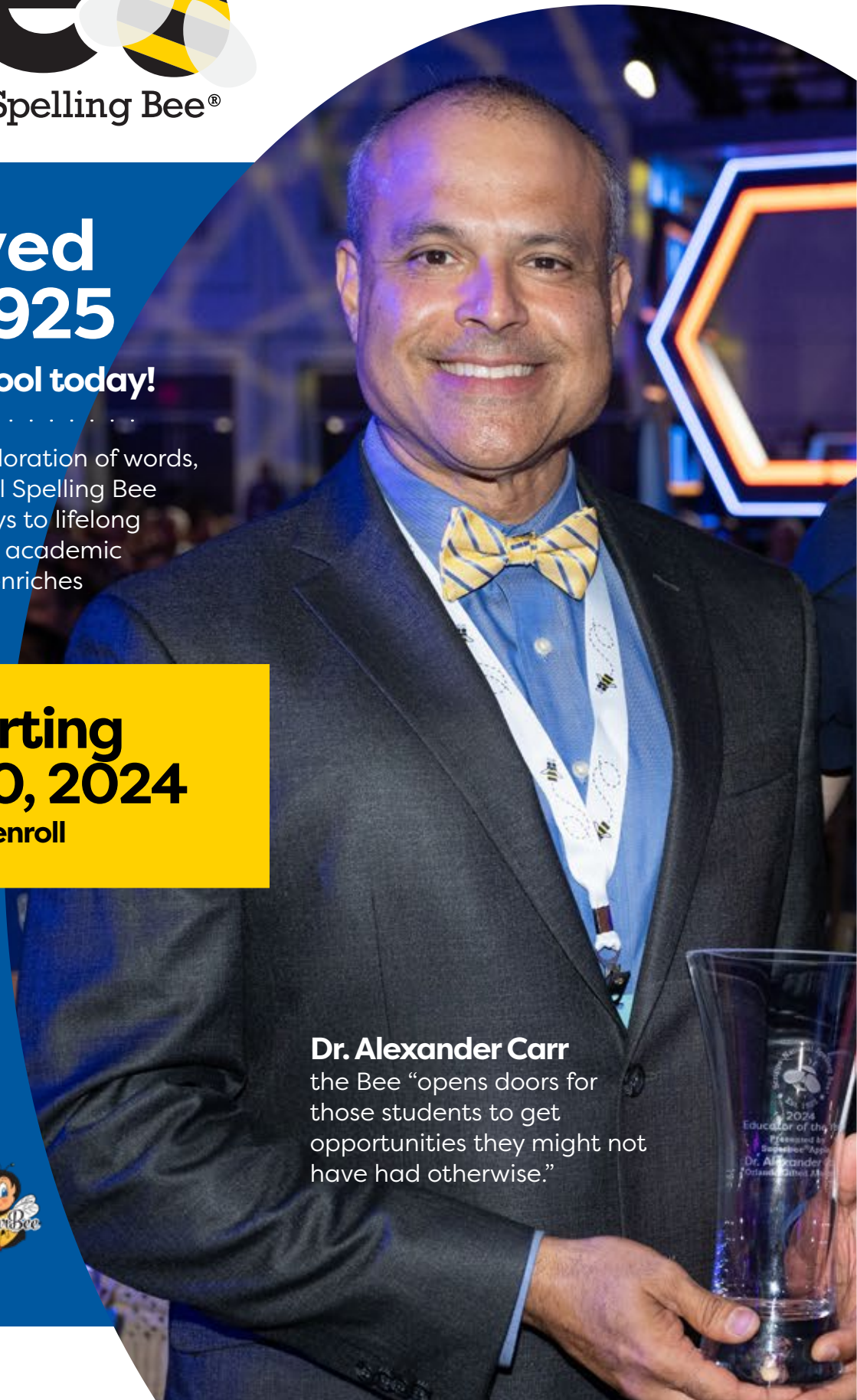
**meet the
Bee's Educator
of the Year**

presented by
SugarBee Apple



Dr. Alexander Carr

the Bee “opens doors for those students to get opportunities they might not have had otherwise.”



why join the hive?



Strengthen study skills, sportsmanship, goal setting and other life skills

Encourage a school culture of camaraderie and academic excellence

Take students' vocabulary and language skills to the next level

Inspire a love of learning in your students

Boost students' confidence and public speaking skills

Helping students bee-come lifelong learners for 100 years

For 100 years, the Bee has been an iconic cultural touchstone for students across the U.S. and beyond. Gift your students the opportunity to compete in the spelling bee program, from the classroom level all the way to the national stage. Enroll your school to be a part of the 100th anniversary of the Scripps National Spelling Bee!

Visit spellingbee.com/enroll today.

For \$199 per school (\$185 early registration price before 10/31), receive everything you need to bring a school spelling bee program to life!

“Competing in the Bee has fostered my curiosity for the world, helped me discover a passion for language and etymology and given me a platform to express myself”

-Vanya Shivashankar, 2015 Champion



A to Z of the Bee



enroll your school

Bee a part of history and enroll your school as part of the Bee's 100th year! Enrollment opens August 20, 2024, at spellingbee.com/enroll.

host the school bee that works best for your school community

The spelling bee program can be tailored to fit what's best for your students and faculty, whether that's hosting classroom- and grade-level competitions, going the online testing route or giving students the opportunity to opt into a school-wide competition.

cheer on students at the regional competitions

School champions compete in regional qualifier and regional spelling bees sponsored by regional partners across the country. Which organization partners with the Bee to bring the spelling bee program to your area? [Check here!](#)

watch students compete on the national stage

In May, spellers arrive in the Washington, D.C., area to take part in the Bee Week experience, and a national Champion is declared during a nationally televised, live broadcast.

enrollment includes:

eligibility for every student to participate in the 100th anniversary of the Scripps National Spelling Bee!

training resources, competition materials and program support

all materials to organize classroom, grade and school spelling bees

special prizes and certificates for your champion and participants

classroom activities and study materials to make word study fun!

important dates:

School Enrollment opens at \$185 per school: **August 20, 2024**

School Enrollment fee increases to \$199 per school: **November 1, 2024**

School enrollment closes for the 2025 season: **January 31, 2025***

Regional Competition Season: **February & March 2025**

National Competition and Bee Week: **May 25 – May 30, 2025**

*Some restrictions may apply. Visit spellingbee.com/enroll for specific enrollment dates in your area.

hosting your school bee

choose your own spelling bee adventure!

There are several ways to run a bee program at your school. Pick the option that works best for your students and faculty! No matter what path their spelling bee journey follows, your students will gain knowledge in spelling and vocabulary that will help them shine their light on the world.

school-wide competition

Students advance from classroom- or grade-level spelling bees to the school spelling bee.

The traditional spelling bee program is a great option to engage your entire school in a spelling bee tradition.

online test

When you enroll, you gain access to the Bee's Online Testing Platform. Students with the best test scores advance to your school spelling bee.

The online test option is great for school-wide participation but allows teachers to qualify students for their school spelling bee via an online test instead of a traditional spell-down method.

opt-in

Students are nominated by teachers or volunteer to participate in the school spelling bee.

Schools may host a school spelling bee with a smaller cohort of students who have a curiosity or aptitude for language, reading and spelling.

what you'll need

1

a school bee coordinator

to plan and coordinate the school spelling bee program

2

bee officials

a 3-person panel of officials who serve as the pronouncer, judge and record keeper for your school spelling bee

3

location

for your school spelling bee (cafeteria, gym or auditorium)

4

a passion for helping your students have fun while learning!



YEARS OF THE BEE

Scripps National Spelling Bee®

the Bee's turning 100!

Participate in special centennial celebrations throughout the 2024-2025 school year.

bringing your bee to life!

Once you've enrolled your school, access everything you need to run a successful spelling bee program in the online School Portal at spellingbee.com.

tools for running classroom and school spelling bees

classroom
and school
competition
lists

Guides for running
classroom and
school spelling
bees

online
testing
platform

A tool for
conducting
a spelling
bee via an
online test

study
materials

Study Materials for your
spellers including word
lists that are grouped
by level of difficulty to
match grade levels

classroom activities to spark your students' curiosity and knowledge of words



words of the
champions

The regional spelling bee
study list to support your
school champion's next step
in their spelling bee journey



The official book
club of the Scripps
National Spelling
Bee



A collection of leveled
books that features all
the words from this
year's *School Spelling
Bee Study List*



the beehive

A biweekly newsletter for
educators with spelling bee
tips and tricks plus educational
content from partners like
Merriam-Webster and the
News Literacy Project

partner offer



A one-year subscription to **Britannica Online for Kids** (a \$74.95 value) to provide to a spelling bee participant – plus a second subscription if you enroll before September 30!

who's who of your school bee



The spelling bee is a great way to bring your school community together! Here's who should be on your bee team.

school enroller

Whether it's your School Bee Coordinator, a school administrator or a member of your school's support staff, identify one person to complete your school's online enrollment at spellingbee.com/enroll.

school bee coordinator

The School Bee Coordinator determines the details and logistics of your school's spelling bee and is responsible for communicating those details to the spellers who will be competing. At the classroom and school levels, this involves selecting the date of those bees and sharing that information with faculty, the spellers who will participate and their parents.

pronouncer

The pronouncer is the speller's key resource during the spelling bee. They pronounce words and provide word information to the speller using prepared and approved competition materials included as part of your school's enrollment with the Bee.

judges

Judges rule on spellings and answers to vocabulary questions provided by spellers during the competition. They maintain a thorough knowledge of the competition rules and swiftly weigh in on questions regarding the competition.

record keeper(s)

The record keepers are responsible for documenting and reporting on the spelling bee competition as it happens and recording spellers' answers in real time during the school competition.

Enroll now at
spellingbee.com/enroll



Scripps National Spelling Bee®

educator
of the year

presented by



Dr. Alexander Carr focuses on inclusion.

—MOLLY MIOSSI

Once a competitive speller himself, the 2024 Scripps National Spelling Bee Educator of the Year credits his classroom spelling bee for helping him learn the English language.

“I’m a second language learner,” says Dr. Alexander Carr, teacher at Orlando Gifted Academy in Florida. “When I was in school and learning English as a language, we’d do the spelling competition, so I became really interested in spelling.”

Carr moved to Florida from Puerto Rico in elementary school. While he doesn’t remember how far he made it in the competition or what word knocked him out, the lessons he learned from the spelling bee stayed with him. “You may not be the most athletically inclined person, but that doesn’t keep you from competing,” he says. “You can compete with your mind.”

Eight years ago, while teaching at a Title I school in Florida, Carr started a class for junior high students to compete in math, robotics and spelling competitions. His teaching and the students’ practice paid off. Each year, a member from that class won the school spelling bee and advanced to the regional competition. Carr says it opened the door for those students to get opportunities they might not have had otherwise. “Some of the students that were in that class had not even left their small neighborhood area,” Carr says. “Those experiences are extremely valuable.”

In 2018, Carr began teaching at the Orlando Gifted Academy and started the school’s first spelling bee program. As the bee’s coordinator, his goal was to make sure the program was inclusive of all students, regardless of their abilities or language barriers. “Just because you have certain limitations doesn’t mean you’re incapable of doing extraordinary things,” Carr says. One of the students he teaches has partial hearing loss. While putting together the school’s competition this year, he made sure the sound system was upgraded and working properly, while also having the pronouncer use a microphone.

“We are inspired by the way Dr. Carr helps students feel included and sets them on a path to success,” says Corrie Loeffler, executive director of the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

For the first time this year, one of Carr’s students—sixth-grader Velvizhi Sethirayar—advanced to the national competition. He knows she’ll put her best foot forward and give her best performance, regardless of the outcome.

As a former competitive speller, Carr had one piece of advice for his younger self. “It’s OK that you have an accent,” he says. “It’s OK that you may not know what some words are—that is OK. In time, you’ll get to where you need to be.”



HIVE MIND

Dr. Alexander Carr is with his students, district champion Velvizhi Sethirayar and Syrus Salcedo at the 2024 Orange County Regional Spelling Bee at Walt Disney World.

The Educator of the Year was recognized with:

- A trip to experience Bee Week and the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington D.C.
- Award recognition in the official opening ceremony of the Scripps National Spelling Bee, that was broadcasted during the preliminaries!
- A \$500 Visa Gift Card
- Featured article in our Bee Week magazine
- Recognition online in social media and the Beehive Newsletter
- Appreciation event at their school, sponsored by SugarBee Apple 

SugarBee® Apple is sponsoring the Educator of the Year award. “SugarBee® Apple growers proudly support the Bee’s educators and their devotion to inspiring every child to discover their potential to innovate and create something magical,” says Julie DeJarnatt, director of brand strategy at Chelan Fresh and representative for SugarBee® Apple.

speller's journey



A student's spelling bee journey begins with your school's enrollment in the Scripps National Spelling Bee program. Enrolling gives every student at your school eligibility to compete in the spelling bee program, from the classroom and school levels to regionals and even the National Competition!



Study lists, organized by grade level

For a classroom- or grade-level spelling bee, your student can study from a list of words for their grade level, from first through eighth grade.

School Spelling Bee Study List

Once a student masters their grade-level words, they can study the 450 words on the *School Spelling Bee Study List*, which encompasses words for all grade levels from first through eighth grade. Will vocabulary be included in your competition? Provide the study list with definitions, featuring parts of speech and definitions for each word.



words of the champions

Words of the Champions

For any competition after your school spelling bee, a student should study *Words of the Champions*, the regional spelling bee study list with 4,000 words divided by difficulty level.

Did you know your students can learn their study words by playing word games and quizzes?

With the free Word Club app, students can have fun while mastering the words from the *School Spelling Bee Study List* and *Words of the Champions!*





The Bee supports literacy outcomes

Participating schools can access classroom resources and activity guides that can work in step with your literacy curriculum. Tear out this sample classroom activity and kick off your students' spelling bee journeys with a brand-new spelling resource.

Access the full library of resources when you enroll your school at spellingbee.com/enroll.

More than Memorization: the Power of the Pen

By Corrie Loeffler, Executive Director of the Scripps National Spelling Bee, in partnership with Pilot FriXion erasable pens

How do I start? It's a question you probably hear each spelling bee season. Unfortunately, "study the whole dictionary" is not the most encouraging answer!

That's why we suggest starting with pen and paper. In 100 years of the Bee, nothing has replaced the simplicity and benefits of creating **a spelling notebook**. Not only is it an approachable and low-cost study method, but handwriting has been shown to help with information retention in ways typing can't replicate.

Tips to help your students start a spelling notebook:

1

Start with a binder and some loose paper.

To make it even more fun, many students decorate their binders with stickers or draw a colorful cover page. Loose paper is best so the notebook can keep growing.

2

Add words from their spelling bee studies to the notebook.

Students can place the words from the *School Spelling Bee Study List* and *Words of the Champions* into their lists.

3

Use color coding to form helpful connections.

Finding words that have similarities will reinforce patterns, and color coding helps to form connections that will stick with your students. Colorful pens like Pilot FriXion erasable pens, the official pen of the Scripps National Spelling Bee, also keep notebooks neat and cross-out free.

4

Make it a collaborative activity.

You can encourage students to share the new words they find with each other, and see how many categories one single word fits into.

5

Keep adding words and categories.

Remind students that no one is grading this and they shouldn't be afraid to make mistakes. At the Bee, we always learn more from our mistakes than from our successes. That's why we like using FriXion erasable pens by Pilot; erasing mistakes and rewriting reinforces information retention in students' brains!

here are some sample categories

- Words from different languages
- Words with tricky sound-alike endings (-able/-ible, -ence/-ance, -er/-or/-ar, etc.)
- Categories reflecting the student's own interests (sports, food, travel, history, etc.)
- Words from different school subjects
- Words with double letters or other letter patterns
- Homonyms



Nothing unlocks the richness of the English language more quickly than a personal spelling notebook. It's like a stress-free language scavenger hunt, and the prize is knowledge!



BUILD A FAB SPELLING NOTEBOOK BY USING YOUR FAVORITE PEN.



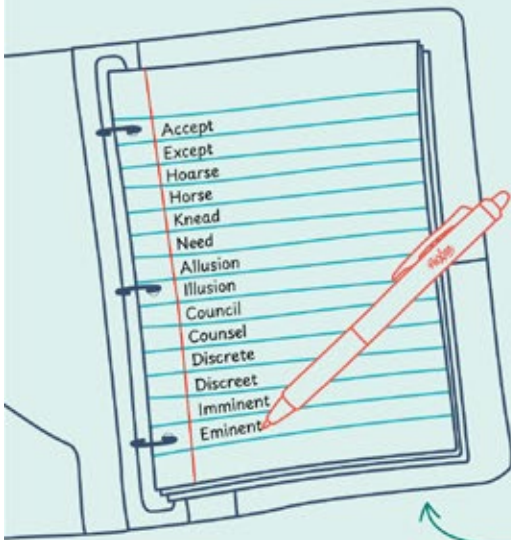
ERASABLE PENS

BY



PILOT IS HERE TO HELP YOU GET PREPARED

WRITE, ERASE & RE-WRITE, WITHOUT MESSY ~~CROSS-OUTS!~~



A diverse array of skilled students have competed in the Scripps National Spelling Bee over the years, but keeping a spelling notebook is one thing that unites nearly all of them. Quite simply, it's the best way to practice and learn.



Handwriting has been proven to help with memory retention, can aid conceptual thinking and improves understanding of material. An actual notebook is also a lot less expensive than a laptop, so go low-tech to make high marks. FriXion erasable pens also make it easy to write, erase and rewrite—without damaging the paper in your new spelling notebook.

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

After reading through your school spelling bee study list and Words of the Champions, make note of words you struggle with. Then, write and rewrite with your FriXion erasable pens, using multiple colors to help you visualize and remember the correct spelling. Soon, it'll become second nature. That's the power of the pen.

Bloop
 Bloop
 Onomatopoeia
 Onomatopoeia
 Onomatopoeia



Retention
 Retenti
 Retentior

GATHER WORDS INTO GROUPS

Associating words with others by topic can help compartmentalize your spelling knowledge, making it easier to access in a pinch. It's a great way to fill out pages in your spelling notebook while boosting your chance of success at The Bee next year!

SPORTS



Badminton



Taekwondo



Croquet

100

YEARS OF THE BEE



1925

the bee that started it all

Nine spellers competed in the first Bee, held in Washington, D.C., in 1925. Frank Neuhauser from Louisville, Kentucky, won by correctly spelling the word gladiolus.

2017

the youngest spellebrity

At just six years old, Edith Fuller became the youngest speller to secure a spot in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. To qualify, she out-spelled 52 other children at the regional competition, spelling such challenging words as... jnana, sarsaparilla and Baedeker.



2019

octochamps!

The Bee has had co-champions in a few instances, beginning back in 1950 when two champions were named. The record for the most champions of a Scripps National Spelling Bee was broken in 2019 when eight spellers went on to share the trophy. They even received a Guinness World Record nod for their win!

Bee a part of history and enroll your school for the Bee's centennial year! Enroll now at spellingbee.com/enroll.

mission

By inspiring the exploration of words, the Scripps National Spelling Bee illuminates pathways to lifelong curiosity, celebrates academic achievement and enriches communities.

vision

To give students the words they need to shine their light on the world.



bee a part of history

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