

2020

GREETINGS, CHAMPIONS!

About this Study Guide

Do you dream of winning a school spelling bee, or even attending the Scripps National Spelling Bee? *Words of the Champions* is the official study resource of the Scripps National Spelling Bee, so you've found the perfect place to start. Prepare for a 2019 or 2020 classroom, grade-level, school, district, county, regional or state spelling bee with this list of 4,000 words.

All words in this book have been selected by the Scripps National Spelling Bee from our official dictionary, *Merriam Webster Unabridged* (<http://unabridged.merriam-webster.com>).

Words of the Champions is divided into three difficulty levels, ranked One Bee (800 words), Two Bee (2,100 words) and Three Bee (1,200 words). These are great words to challenge you, whether you're just getting started in spelling bees or if you've already participated in several. At the beginning of each level, you'll find the *School Spelling Bee Study List* words. For any classroom, grade-level or school spelling bee, study the 125-word One Bee *School Spelling Bee Study List*, the 225-word Two Bee *School Spelling Bee Study List* and the 100-word Three Bee *School Spelling Bee Study List*: a total of 450 words.

Following the *School Spelling Bee Study List* in each level, you'll find pages marked "Words of the Champions." Are you a school spelling bee champion or a speller advancing to compete beyond the school level? Study these pages to make sure you're prepared to do your best when these words are asked in the early rounds of competition. And remember, although spelling bees will start with words from this guide, they often end with words you haven't studied.

Each year, the Scripps National Spelling Bee will release a new version of *Words of the Champions* featuring 800 new words, including an all-new *School Spelling Bee Study List*.

Your spelling bee journey starts now, and taking the first step toward becoming a star athlete of the English language makes you a *Champion*. These *Words* are for you.

About the Scripps National Spelling Bee

The Scripps National Spelling Bee is the nation's largest and longest-running educational program. The purpose of the Scripps National Spelling Bee is to help students improve their spelling, increase their vocabularies, learn concepts and develop correct English usage that will help them all their lives. Visit spellingbee.com for more information about the Bee and to check if your school is enrolled. The Scripps National Spelling Bee is administered on a not-for-profit basis by The E.W. Scripps Company.

DIFFICULTY
LEVEL
ONE BEE

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: ONE
BEE School Spelling Bee Study
List

	admit	peppermint	sniffle mouth	sweeten neon	antennas
	grown-ups	broth	filters	beeswax social	honest
punting crowd	pieces	ash	cone	behold	holler
secret fumble	brass	flame	never	mix	billboard
pond	onshore	grits	silly	drool	chicken
health pardon	stunts	cliff	Monday grub	understand	puppets waited
shake kiddo	deny	hem	hook	sound	finish
proof	jolly	candles brim	number	benches	cheer
gorp	powder	plot	cooking	shrugged still	twisty
town	walnut	desk	amazed collect	pranks	chips
bingo	sawdust	bobcat polo	local	smiled	scoop
clever inside	flustered	roller	proper	peach	rover
reply	barber	stark	basement	pie	forgive ribbon
frozen special	chimes	drum	ripple	size	shoo
film	cabin	snarl	feats	hall	greedy beam
results soda	faint	argue	plumbing	jangled	crew
seal	manger	loppers petal	stubborn adrift	chain	crate
twirled		giant		workhorse	hotel

stray

Great Words, Great Works Reading Program

Each year, the Scripps National Spelling Bee publishes its School Spelling Bee Study List to help students prepare for classroom and school-level spelling bees. These words come from a list of books carefully selected by the Bee's editorial team. That list of books is called Great Words, Great Works. Find it at spellingbee.com/book-list.

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DIFFICULTY LEVEL: ONE

BEE Words of the Champions

	muscular	listener	recoup	famous	panorama
	drizzle	guardian	bookworm	pristine	gimmick
gradual	accurate	studio	dwindled	veteran	golden
ferocious	illusionist	fraught	erase	modesty	cucumber
frequently	genetic	sturdy	handcuffs	amphibian	McMansion
permission	levity	treadmill	spinal	jealousy	janitor
towel	moisture	originate	demolition	remedial	lionize
sundae	toughness	forfend	gargantuan	vouch	headdress
ornament	tasteless	astute	OR forefend	salsa	trivia
rooster	turtle	eavesdrop	chaotic	shoulder	fragrance
scold	Pinkerton	January	shrimp	zebra	pear
organza	fortune	scruple	mandate	butterscotch	system
fragile	sluggard	moxie	turret	apron	pedigree
galaxy	bedlam	winnow	pigeon	beagle	empty
complaint	shortfall	incentive	satellite	kidney	amulet
curries	cowlick	admirer	parasite	wistful	guess
tennis	opinionated	emotional	favorite	raven	magician
grumbling	garlic	slogan	chia	OR *favourite	carrot
hula	triumphant	raspberry	cascade	fructose	meteor
reactionary	parenthetic	bogus	dandelion	Amazon	distraught
				companion	freight
					honeybee
					blemish

crumpet	monopolize	genius	simmer	imbibe	cactus
blizzard	water	nuance	whisk	savvy	nationalism
squirm	marathon	stencil	bathtub	reckon	leeway
harmonious	omission	penguin	fantastically	boorish	pilferer
lawyer	newbie	freckle	failure	tarmac	rollicking
valiant	spreadsheet	blooper	tolerable	iteration	quart
purse	badger	misconception	mosquito	nurture	lactose
raisin	fortification	lambkin	target	volcano	domineering
trumpet	hydra	chowder	angora	forensics	onion
bias	grouse	sunflower	snippet	miraculous	abandon
lettuce	manta	lambasted	ascribe	trendy	jamboree junior
shamrock	astonish	volumetric	hodgepodge	permafrost	hamlet
Americana	fashionista	flattery	verbiage	iceberg	jubilant
	stubble		nephew		

In Good Company

When it comes to spelling bee participants, the more the merrier! In fact, more than 11 million spellers participate in qualifying spelling bees throughout the country and around the world.

*chiefly British spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: ONE

BEE Words of the Champions

	bother	timber	recipient strong	buffoonery	dollars
thawed	missile	medallion	canteen	intellectual	hospitality
uncle	munchkin	maximum	aviation lucky	tickled	necklace
dawdle	banana	clover	rocket	domino	explanation
mogul	furnace	casino	reflect	ignite	thimblery
troll	foothills	distinctive	scent	legacy	landmark
kindred	tongue	mister	puzzles	splurge	peerless
tantrum	caterpillar	warning useful	scumble	neigh	flute
science	wasp	difficult	extinct	cabbage	skateboard
cement	kudos	mischievous talent	jersey	erode	manifesto
venomous	alpha	kiwi	trapezoid	formalize	imitative
plaintiff	shebang	publish	dillydally	OR *formalise	famished
mayhem	tibia	mutter	haggle	anyway	ecotourism
thicket	hazelnut	sedentary	sword	isolation	cancel
gymnastics	votive	divine	mastiff	measly	flooey
island	lantern	lexicon	cooperate	apprehensive	ginger
peacenik	mince	bristle	merchandise	zither	lifetime
ounce	bubbly	daresay	gauntlet	whiff	integrity
memorandum	graham	owlishly	apology	organic	arcade
	headlong	criminal	carnival	mugwump	manufacture

bellyache	deodorant	ingredient	peekaboo	yarn	widget
keyhole	dojo	generosity	beckon	hubbub	goblet
seldom	conductor	religious	rhinestone	premium	gander
impostor	garment	timidly	mundane	sinus	slipshod
OR imposter	ladybug	bargain	magnificent	trait	pencil
glimpse	bebop	around	flexible	swallow	granola
magnate	nuisance	wan	skeleton	recyclable	monarch jargon
hangnail	saga	faculty	weakness	turnip	incendiary
novelist	lookout	spelunker	priority	tirade	velcro
sourly	blouse	major	third	materialize	award
serpentine	relish	methodology	ovation	winsome	parsley
taco	propaganda	weevil	sonar	trencher	
melodramatic	foxes	innermost	beverage	compilation	
sirloin	ragamuffin	aromatherapy	stench	dandruff	

Cruising the Airwaves

The first broadcast of the Bee wasn't on television — it was on radio! It wasn't until 1946 that it was first televised. ESPN started airing the Scripps National Spelling Bee in 1994.

*chiefly British spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: ONE

BEE Words of the Champions

	ambitious	poncho	megaher	balderda	circle
rascal	monument	hooligan	tz gnash	sh	respect
ravine	al basilisk	decade	knuckle	infringe	introverted
perplex	lamentabl	forbidden	bribery	interlop	fuddy-dud
qualitative	e brilliant	jumbo	glucose	er	dy pulley
sticky	competitiv	mortal	mower	routine	Kodiak
hamstring	e lounge	bugaboo	campus	privacy	misinterpr
vacuum	supper	standard	infant	decision	et twee
reliable	explosive	yearn	thunderbo	farfette	holiday
snore	cajole	primatologi	It	d linen	indigo
ladle	bauble	st voluntary	despicabl	piratical	forage
surefire	happenstan	furious	e elderly	pigsty	tooth
enchantme	ce tussle	wombat	amigo	misery	dauntlessly
nt apple	inched	marginali	bestow	months	faucet
mellow	dimension	ze swipe	gung ho	guffaw	scheme
nacho	ugliness	eternity	umbrella	caravan	cough
problem	quack	imagery	synthetic	culinary	straw
acorn	spider	pastel	cloying	boycott	hooves
cutlery	weather	twice	olive	calzone	shadow
	twinge		truth	bawl	meekness

squall	napkin	daught	kosher	historic	mangrove
OR squawl	overrun	er laser	minority	al rules	enfranchis
omen	yellowfin	invoke	default	geometri	e kiln
militant	clodhopper	upshot	heroic	c villa	webisod
civics	crayon	climate	bombard	midriff	e
locker	bakery	yankee	furtive	teaspoon	kangaro
jabberwock	porridge	dim sum	journal	worrywar	o
y detention	eyelet	moose	tulip	t	Romeo
sparkle	yeti	cuckoo	myself	develope	emerge
calico	groove	dilemma	marine	r	twitchy
theme	estimate	outrageo	cloudy	shopahol	arrogant
literacy	cattail	us silver	cricket	ic	normativ
loathe	paraphra	fedora	motto	magma	e
axle	se	wildcat	torch	briefcas	homewor
glimmer	heartthro	monstrosi	pamper	e	k mildew
vacation	b cheek	ty sofa	pleasant	deputy	pattern
		eggplant	robin		

The 93rd Scripps National Spelling Bee

Mark your calendar! The Scripps National Spelling Bee will take place from May 24-29, 2020, at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center in Oxon Hill, Maryland, near Washington, D.C.

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DIFFICULTY LEVEL: ONE

BEE Words of the Champions

	everglad	horizon	jewel	hankeri	tiger
	es pellet	arborio	tangible	ng	romaine
coffee	klutz	cartoon	nourish	esteem	
botch	envoy	dough	vulpine	knack	migraine
receptacl	postpone	emperor	aloha	satisfactor	oasis
e	wafer	utterable	entrance	y barefoot	navigat
bagpipe	software	leniency	kindergart	trope	or
bonfire	factoid	frivolous	en	knock	humane
abruptly	marvelous	potato	restaurant	whittle	polenta
bushel	OR	wholehearte	functionary	joyful	delicacy
skedadd	marvellous	d metadata	dodge	genuine	noggin
le	evince	farewell	iota	recluse	backgrou
toddler	season	hypnotic	gelato	shield	nd thistle

A Big Time Spellebrity

If you've watched the Bee on ESPN, you've probably seen his face. You've definitely heard his voice. We're talking about the official pronouncer of the Bee, Dr. Jacques Bailly. He won the Scripps National Spelling Bee in 1980 and took up the role of pronouncer in 2003.

DIFFICULTY
LEVEL

TWO BEE

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO

BEE School Spelling Bee Study List

gallop	Mars	cannona	amplify	cottage	barrier
dinosaur	pelican	de	security	garland	gratingly
brought	drastic	appetite	refrain	gnaw	brayed
ancient	yoga	luggage	tactics	comfort	Harlem
earthqua	burlap	ramparts	shepherd	caroling	messenger
ke	blazer	vinyl	Angus	OR carolling	beacons
tapestry	trombone	anemomete	mulish	foolishness	generation
delivery	trembling	rs dainty	rivalry	constellati	coverage
attagirl	calmed	buckle	siblings	on	deters
salamande	police	vividly	chestnut	sundering	Nepal
rs	certain	briny	minivan	juncture	disinfectant
disembark	barogra	pavement	plaid	exploits	campaign
usual	ph	garnet	tissue	rabble-rous	starvation
challeng	charred	furrow	scoundrel	er profound	gamma
e	Pakistan	sprawl	amino	wreath	spleen
cahoots	pressure	museum	menthol	profile	utensils
oozing	surmised	wren	Tabasco	untoward	depot
	teak	legend	obvious	memorial	incident
	transit	transistor	pulse	industrial	brambl

es	e	momento	diminished	confused	chisel
trifecta	fiercest	us	organist	microwave	chimney
shingle	residenc	disturbanc	operator	gabled	minnow
mason	e	e	Louisiana	settle	domain
avoid	abated	wily	perpetual	somber	shuffle
static	scatterin	rookie	blustery	OR sombre	carpenter
samples	g	transparenci	molars	tampered	pruners
modern	toppled	es hazmat	arrange	loyal	parcel
chalk	vane	Antarctic	dissolved	remarkable	squawk
concentrat	vortices	perfume	extremely	joists	Sheetrock
e proud	turbulent	plaiting	plastic	scrambling	trowel
expiratio	obstacles	writers	multiplicatio	inspector	nervous
n	continent	series	n middle	distressed	spirit
batterie	al	audience	reasonable	smudge	equator
s	deportme	insubstanti	closet	throttle	evidence
centurie	nt	al	investigati	perfection	solar
s	exhibits	staggered	on	capable	explore
differed	agricultur	assistance	accident	gadgets	
fearsom	al	sanitized	discussion	channel	

Our Purpose

The purpose of the Bee is to help students improve their spelling, increase their vocabularies, learn concepts and develop correct English usage that will help them all their lives.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO

BEE School Spelling Bee Study List

	sheriff	beatboxing	episode
	tarry	mutate	confection
distance fault	entity	commonplace	autographs
colonists	archives	gingerbread	withers
prudence	commotion	hunky-dory	petite
assembly	vacancy	dispute	station

Eight Times the Fun

In 2019, eight spellers made Bee history and inspired a neologism: “Octochamps!” At about midnight on the night of the Finals, the dictionary admitted defeat to what the Bee declared “the most phenomenal assemblage of spellers in the history of this storied competition.” Rishik Gandhasri, Erin Howard, Saketh Sundar, Shruthika Padhy, Sohum Sukhatankar, Abhijay Kodali, Christopher Serrao and Rohan Raja ended the 2019 Bee in an eight-way tie.

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DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO

BEE Words of the Champions

hexagonal	phalanges	Minotaur	importunat	abhorrenc	sophisticat
litmus	bachelorett	intermezzo	e	e	d nebulous
seethe	e frontier	edification	recuperati	personnel	genus
antiquarian	unctuous	vacuousne	on	vexatious	legionnaire
	fluoride	ss epilepsy	citronella	faux	sternutation
	moorage		palliative		

subcutaneo	inundate	e	on torrent	e kerchief	legato
us alacrity	wunderkin	annihilat	arsenic	whimsical	slovenly
choreograph	d filial	e	invertebrate	stamina	aerobics
er	wearisome	sarcophag	**bandanna	criteria	paisley
leguminous	visage	us	OR	reprieve	contrariwis
ceramics	fascinator	surrogate	bandana	consequ	e
mimetic	testimony	terabyte	manipulable	nt	petroleum
unabated	beaucoup	uncouth	axiomatic	contusion	regalia
petrifying	banal	onerous	indefatigabl	mulligan	incinerate
specimen	seismologi	macrocos	e ulterior	sabermetri	flagon
interlocut	st	m bulbous	oligarchy	cs	incoherent
or	spectacles	umpirage	pianola	elocution	tercentenar
machete	innovator	heredity	dignify	dowager	y
dulcet	bursary	philharmon	allegiance	compariso	vituperative
salubrious	hallowed	ic	basaltic	n	churlish
rotisserie	apogee	endorphin	scorpion	diaphanou	riviera
**paneer	hiatus	pharmacy	planetarium	s	laconic
OR panir	freesia	fondant	ecstatic	agoraphob	excision
omnibus	exonerati	cupola	cinnamon	ia buffet	emblazon
biscotti	on duvet	herbaceous	pharaoh	tortoise	ed
calibrate	turpitude	tentativene	opponenc	surmountab	bric-a-bra
appellation	platitude	ss pachinko	y	le endure	c
duodenum	nobiliary	decrepitude	referendu	bonobo	longitude
valorous	commerc	redux	m quaver	abrogate	maverick
isotopic	e	dramaturgy	rabbinic	effusive	retrograd
carpal	keratitis	murmurati	lapel	primitive	e
quizzical	honorific	on	mackerel	fabulist	partridge
heliotrope	kookabur	Clydesdale	callow	comportme	insignia
squander	ra	phonics	biscuit	nt taciturn	binomial
prenuptial	napoleon	calisthenics	flourish	sophomor	luminanc
succulent	superlativ	obediential	beatific	ic	e
bedraggled	e	odiferous	repository	laureate	adjective
rectitude	oxygenat	combinati	dissipate	Goliath	
uranium			accomplic	splenetic	

Who Knew?

The Scripps National Spelling Bee is the nation's largest and longest-running educational program.

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO
BEE Words of the Champions

	ic	ry	eucalyptus	vandalize	evanesce
elucidate	miscible	catalepsy	rambunctio	chancell	nt diverge
spatula	soprano	labyrinthin	us	or	exemplar
triglyceride	cutis	e	ingenuous	pauper	marsupi
s stalwart	hyrax	notoriety	phonetician	epoch	al trefoil
bumptious	truncheo	subterrane	macular	dumbwait	designer
farcical	n	an	simpatico	er	leisure
ghastly	educand	aubergine	adhesion	allergenic	vague
parkour	Realtor	jalapeño	rennet	vocabular	wharf
fealty	billabong	attributive	pinnacle	y vassal	altercation
perilous	bariatrics	plutono	avalanc	panary	fratority
steroid	througho	my	he	tangerin	cataclysmic
gullibility	ut	lobotomy	cadge	e	metatarsal
tarantula	propulsio	assumption	exodus	pervasi	bereavemen
cantankero	n	entreprene	philosophi	ve	t
us vitriolic	assailant	ur	ze	haphazard	carbohydrat
crinoline	chariotee	besieged	Requiem	legislature	es sesame
debris	r solicit	placoder	glitterati	shenaniga	palatable
armamen	melismat	m	transferenc	ns	gratis
ts	ic	hermitag	e uveal	inclusion	nonvolatile
versatile	spurious	e	candelabru	physicis	juvenilia
subtlety	tempeh	permutati	m vacillate	ts	fomentation
hangar	statistica	on	phenotype	tempura	reprisal
verbena	n	conferenc	transposab	reggae	astrobleme
zirconium	ibuprofen	e	le	futility	sabotage
ventriloqu	injurious	woebegon	thrasonical	untenabl	absolution
y	anglophil	e	trepanation	e	rutabaga
circumfle	e defiant	resplenden	Holstein	feudalism	espousal
x	substitut	ce aphasia	quadrillio	malevole	virulence
calligram	e	environs	n	nt	allocable
eczema	quiddity	celebrator	tardigrad	posada	effraction
theomach	karst	y	e varsity	acquiesc	limousine
y fibula	Brigadoo	cornucopi	scholarshi	e	drupiferous
aberration	n	a	p filbert	apotheca	organelle
necrotic	vestibule	prominent	Galahad	ry	osprey
eminent	ballyhoo	archetype	jadeite	summary	elusive
demographi	ed	travails	peripher	brogue	disproportiona
cs Jurassic	arpeggio	antipathy	al	suet	te cayenne
myoglob	lupine	leviathan	elevator	koto	tabernacle
in frugal	resuscitate	alpaca	chaperona	jingoism	phosphoresce
achromat	approbato	duress	ge frittata	satchel	nt anxiety

Did You Know?

In 2002, the Bee introduced the written test at the national finals for the first time. The vocabulary portion of the test

came along in 2013. 11

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO

BEE Words of the Champions

	us	integument	ly toploftical	ricochet	flimflamm
	reciprocity	Hebrides	noctambuli	hackneyed	er
conch	molecule	macaw	st visibility	vespertine	astrigent
singultus	millennial	perspicacio	ligament	**brusque	mademoisel
impromptu	ineffable	us	plenitude	OR brusks	le nouveau
oracle	abnegati	reimbursabl	illustrious	erstwhile	heterochrom
condemn	on	e jambalaya	symmetric	lollod	ia consul
scenograph	beguile	geriatric	al	osteopath	hermeticall
er	centenary	striation	pendulous	kaiser	y
neuroticism	matrimony	Appaloosa	analepsis	imperious	excursion
cannoli	errata	ramification	mitigative	Egyptian	dreadlock
platoon	stipulate	s temerity	pyrite	foible	s
solstice	naïveté	egress	sacrifice	lousicide	theriatrics
swannery	OR naiveté	geocachin	consternati	ewer	cumberso
probative	cadence	g instigate	on	curfew	me affluent
oblique	fido	obscure	escalator	schism	chastise
buoyancy	vehicular	transcriptio	impasto	dilapidated	colic
situation	sabbatical	n	antagonistic	peony	atomic
lumbar	ermine	muchacha	affront	urgency	fêng shui
topiary	pugilist	steppe	element	bifurcate	acuity
reverbera	tapioca	palpitant	desolate	drivel	subliminal
nt	festooned	nonchalanc	truncate	jettison	charismatic
yeenling	tectonic	e realm	pedicure	Promethe	c phoenix
homicide	wizened	estuary	**caftan	an	bastion
graphologis	tomfoolery	technician	OR kaftan	embassy	edamame
t principality	harrumph	dietetic	ingratiates	contemptuo	porcelain
Nostradam	embezzleme	homage	sousapho	us okapi	deglaciatio
us	nt fallacy	cumulus	ne	welterweigh	n recruit
taxonomic	asylum	essential	amalgam	t scrooge	tableau
beret	remunerati	seraphic	carnage	morose	sheldrake
talisman	on	cameist	turmeric	osmosis	suitable
impecunio	expostulate	scrumptious	zoolatry		

cenotaph	contrivance	OR anaemic	churros	earnestly	patience
Plumeria	suffrage	depravity	diadem	**gaffe	quittance
perpetrator	thyme	effervescent	larceny	OR gaff	tenement
cinematic	phlebotomy	soirée	acetaminoph	ostensibly	soothsayer
wallaby	anemic	OR soiree	en parochial	gesticulate	varicose
				gingivitis	

From Around the World

Most spellers at the Scripps National Spelling Bee are from the United States, but spellers also come from American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Department of Defense Schools in Europe as well as the Bahamas, Canada, Ghana, Jamaica, Japan and South Korea.

**preferred spelling

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DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO

BEE Words of the Champions

	nocturnal	contradictory	hydroponic	halibut	proletarian
adage	redolent	penitentiary	combustible	spectrometer	vantage
cicada	vendage	umbrage	factorial	circadian	discountenance
mauve	entente	crustaceans	dolma	servitude	stupefy
emeritus	boomslang	bubonic	sapphire	traverse	irrevocable
suture	circuitous	sartorial	prevenient	tungsten	trellis
obfuscate	veracity	escarpment	Edenic	vineyard	juxtapose
casualty	marionette	Celsius	tributary	interrogative	hydrangea
perseverance	Neapolitan	dialysis	laudatory	scullery	slalom
apparatus	chintzy	humidistat	jitney	tiramisu	corollary
myopic	genteel	sardonic	wattage	exaggerate	étude
ebullience	requisition	braille	papillon	enoki	cranium
clairvoyance	stimuli	vignette	vertigo	profundity	equivalent
impetus	schooner	adjudicate	accumulate	mantra	portentous
affianced	declamatory	caricature	deltoidal	escarole	nepotism
archaism	embryo	emerald	opulent	nanotechnology	truffle
commodious	languorous	liege	paramecium	bureau	varicella
austere	stevia	wilco	monochrome	burglarios	tonsillitis
severance	phycology	germane	facade	cryptozoa	thoracic
financier	malaise	bacteriolytic	OR façade	preponderance	proviso
wildebeest	staid	rhododendron	evaporation	bruxism	netiquette
asado	acerbity	ineptitude	bittern	psychoanalysis	paucity
limpa	inimical	academese	flotsam	calendar	doldrums
adolescence	kaleidoscope	registrar	discombobulate	reiterate	slumgullion
menagerie	gluttonous	alma mater	scrutiny	remorseful	valedictorian
hallucinate	gypsum	comedienne	concatenate	cybernetics	auspices
opprobrious	polypeptide	cutaneous	impeachable	garniture	elaborative
	wushu	gnarled	residue	twilight	proprietary

**nascent	regurgitate	rosin	usurper	apiary	epoxy
OR naissant	stegosaur	burial	phraseology	ronin	discreetly sieve
adieu	statuesque	bulwark	caramel	tropical	trounce
tenaciously	nectarine	iridescent	pecuniary	pontiff	hydrophobia
indemnity	galvanize	quince	cornea	omniscient	ingot
cyanosis	agonistic	cyclone	resilience	capacity	nubuck
				sewage	

The First Bee

In 1925, the first national spelling bee was organized by the *Louisville Courier-Journal* with a total of nine spellers. Frank Neuhauser won the championship title after correctly spelling “gladiolus.”

**preferred spelling

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DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO

BEE Words of the Champions

	berserk	toile	occupanc	e evaluate	digression
jocularly	cathedral	plaudits	y	mastodon	intricate
unfurl	deciduous	serenade	coriander	denticulat	annotate
calculator	baleen	heptad	amnesty	e	vehemen
corduroy	Einstein	engineer	condensati	supplicat	ce
encore	municipal	pilcrow	on	e torsion	fervorous
hollyhock	adversaria	porosity	aqueduct	justiciabl	septennial
qualms	turbinado	tandoori	ferret	e vernal	hypotenuse
mosaic	brethren	succumb	widdershin	aardvark	emancipato
centipede	tympanum	fervently	s hostile	census	ry supine
attendee	fisticuffs	divestitur	subseque	stagflation	fracas
nomenclatu	propinquit	e roseola	nt whet	brontophob	disrepair
re botany	y	installatio	blatant	ia	photogen
Holocaust	epidermis	n	pyramid	macrobiotic	ic
augment	carriage	harbinger	terminus	s glareous	rehearsal
acoustic	abstemiou	raptatori	agitation	rejuvenate	irritability
eruption	s	al	tremulous	tubular	vainglorio
auburn	echinoder	sobriety	scythe	dodecahedr	us ataxia
virtually	m	manumit	duplicitous	on rictus	pageantry
glissando	optimum	dentifrice	protectorat	vengeanc	vinegar
stomach	pathogen	collegialit	e placards	e	fiduciary
demonstrativ	acrostic	y	corral	modular	emulsify
e	anthropolo	inclemen	credulity	kleptocrat	lorikeet
megalomani	gy	t	dissonan	neuropat	malfeasanc
ac posse	cruciferous	celery	ce shoji	hy	ce
declension	macchiato	idiosyncrat	auditorium	surrealist	sequential
	ancillary	ic burgoo	reconcilabl	secession	intersperse

numerology	superficialit	quadriceps	y	o	expunge
Paleozoic	y	tachycardia	montage	bruschett	maize
funnel	marooned	triceratops	compendiu	a dictum	metastasize
syndicate	**volary	sandal	m	premonitio	quintessenti
chrysalis	OR volery	pashmina	unmoored	n	al pollutant
bethesda	follicle	utilitarian	yardang	stereotypic	brouhaha
cartilage	brochure	millivolt	fluctuation	al	pedantry
coeval	grotesquene	herringbo	flabberga	bergamot	performan
curio	ss privatim	ne	st	telepathic	ce
ombudsman	eradicate	orchestra	accolade	banquet	equivocate
hydrant	krypton	phlox	connivory	upbraid	fission
zeppelin	ethanol	tractabilit	impresari	pancreas	

Did You Know?

The Scripps National Spelling Bee was featured in the Academy Award-nominated documentary *Spellbound*.

**preferred spelling

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DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO

BEE Words of the Champions

	neonatolog	moribund	ascensio	nt menial	cy
	y pituitary	recriminator	n	Morocca	clowder
boondogg	fleetness	y	venue	n	occultatio
le phylum	anonymity	subaqueou	microfiche	clearanc	n
hypochondr	carcinogeni	s recusancy	quadrilater	e assure	Chihuahu
ia	c detritus	retrocedenc	al	compatrio	a
obstetrician	anorak	e cauterize	turpentine	ts liaison	promontor
replete	enviable	immolate	cellophane	quotidian	y shar-pei
raucous	extrapolat	résumé	indulgent	matriculatio	narcolepti
Brandywin	e	extensive	occipital	n revulsive	c efface
e	extinguis	transcend	predicame	gaucho	sycopha
surreptitiou	h	freneticis	nt	capsule	nt
s surplus	pilaster	m merino	provincial	tragedian	bellweth
impedime	perceptibl	pestilenc	antithesis	fajitas	er
nt	e	e	gouge	felonious	clarinet
revenant	dystopia	mordant	salivate	palatial	capillary
topgallant	muesli	posthumo	laity	Mecca	disposition
clandestin	crux	us	indolent	albeit	remonstran
e	wordmong	QWERTY	documenta	vermicid	ce
genealogic	er	foosball	ry bromide	e	smithereens
al	wobblulator	accentuat	algae	echelon	curator
pomposity	mahogany	e	reminisce	suprema	judicious

vice versa	cognizant	minacious	campanolo	necessit	McCoy
exercise	OR	vindictive	gy	y	histrionic
civet	*cognisant	implacabl	persuasible	piety	s cashier
pancetta	languish	e	desultorily	veritable	polysemy
waiver	protuberant	logarithmi	papyrus	sashay	stampe
decennial	chortle	c regicide	El Niño	sciatica	de
dynamite	unscathed	hubris	anchorage	discomfitur	forfeit
Gemini	raclette	hibernaculu	conundru	e	armadillo
retinol	superstitiou	m	m	emphysem	overweeni
corpulent	s mawkish	bandicoot	debilitate	a stridency	ng
potpourri	flambé	malingering	mittimus	acetone	sacrosanct
pallor	patronymic	parliamenta	mellifluous	cerebellu	syringe
Yorkshire	odometer	ry	clemency	m	eclipse
Belgravia	uvula	rebarbative	backgammon	pantomim	espadrill
casserole	enumerated	olympiad	intuitable	e prima	e corgi
semester	desertificatio	crocodile	divvy	donna	caffeine
sacrament	n quirky	venerable	fatuously	praxis	panacea
terra-cotta	arraign	chemise	fraudule	Tinseltow	
moratorium	elegant		nt	n sorrel	

There's a First Time for Everything

Hugh Tosteson was the first winner from outside of the fifty U.S. states. He lived in Puerto Rico.

*chiefly British spelling

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DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO

BEE Words of the Champions

	le disparate	equinox	peculate	fenestrated	ufology
	artifice	prospero	treatise	lugubrious	cholera
cabaret	cymbals	us	undergird	isosceles	**minuscule
froufrou	nucleated	sclerosis	oompah	hoity-toity	OR
eschew	exorbitant	ablaut	adulation	Mesopotami	miniscule
ventricle	reparations	anabolic	minutia	an Muzak	jeepney
induceme	constabular	jimberjawe	anticipatory	vicinity	volucrine
nt	y speculate	d toilsome	chinook	merely	populace
vanguard	stratosphe	tempestuo	indigent	abominable	vetiver
portrait	re noxious	us univocal	merganser	procedure	parameters
tepidity	arbitrary	avarice	sternum	limpid	inflammable
meridian	quasar	bouclé	par	syllabus	pyrotechnic
spontaneit	Podunk	OR boucle	excellence	animus	s mollify
y platinum	seize	thoroughbre	thwartwise	trillium	cohesive
nonnegotiab	pathos	d potassium	tae kwon do	Dalmatian	stigmata

prolix	bodega	scarlatin	rhythmicall	cogently	apotheosi
mitochondri	bona fide	a ciao	y	auricular	s entrée
a	gustator	genome	dovecote	settee	homeostas
onomatopoe	y	inviolabl	bountiful	legitimatel	is calamari
ia lavender	obliterat	e	pantheon	y	prehensil
tensile	e	contrite	marimba	inoculate	e
gaudery	legalese	patrician	conduit	heleoplankt	somatoty
luxuriate	rudimen	enervate	bravado	on pliant	pe bizarro
cavalcade	ts	turophile	benefice	billiards	dissemble
gladiatorial	monitory	Patagon	nt indict	obstrepero	gallant
machination	equilibriu	ia	epitome	us frabjous	intensify
pugnacious	m	vanquis	annulme	spiracle	hurriedly
peruse	roustabo	h	nt	Formica	corrosive
alluvial	ut trifle	ectoplas	vegetaria	Mylar	afghan
epicurean	ambrosial	m	n surimi	rusticatio	odontiasis
derelict	simultaneit	olfactory	besmirch	n	stratificatio
revelation	y	en masse	trespass	globular	n
arithmetic	gastronom	stroganoff	commande	stellar	tomahawk
depredation	e epithet	procrastinat	er bonsai	akimbo	artesian
ignominio	encroac	e	university	derisive	mendaciou
us auction	h	purification	celestial	ineluctabl	s
assiduo	acacia	plantain	prepostero	e eerily	gubernatori
us	tetanus	aperture	us extant	funambuli	al pungent
diligence				st	mandrill

Older than Sliced Bread

The National Spelling Bee was first held in 1925. That makes us older than sliced bread, bubble gum and even trampolines.

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO

BEE Words of the Champions

	continuum	dopamine	decor	**déjà vu	humerus
	pachyderm	pitiful	OR décor	OR déjà vue	vagabonds
gibbous	symposium	ammunition	duchy	calabash	variegated
extracurricular	floribunda	pariah	pagoda	**chute	volition
punctuation	salience	prodigious	establishment	OR shute	gossamer
nautilus	molasses	denominator	ruminate	impermeable	vincible
thievery	classical	prorogue	sympathy	trepidation	factitious
dragoon	fungible	fecund	puniness	collision	sculpture
yuzu	Gothamite	laceration	lingua franca	scarab	annuity
ritziness	affable	nexus	triforium	veganism	quid pro quo
gazette					

curmudgeon	captivated	kraken	loquacious	vellum	cytoplasm
cushion	onus	stanzaic	prosthetic	enunciate	affectionately
tutelage	precursor	putrescent	latency	tarsier	Pulitzer
domiciled	mochi	nostalgia	epitaphs	autodidact	vitreous
theorem	feign	dechlorinate	solitaire	parable	wraith
accrual	dementia	unconscionable	dishevel	rowan	insulin
grandeur	voilà	Pembroke	Limburger tuffet	tripartite	phlegmatic
ottoman	OR voila	liquefaction	epact	Bohemian	spasmodic
logographic	habanero	palazzo	abstruse	succinct	bouquet
armistice	Francophone	miasma	nephrolith	inquietude	denizen
cryogenic	convivium	concoct	adipose	compunction	duopoly
catalyst	atrium	modicum	quorum	decumbiture	alpinist
thespian	italicization	javelin	pharynx	multivalent	abracadabra
submersible	preliminary	spoonerism	epistolary	artillery	plethora
extemporaneous	echoed	complicit	pursuit	quotient	rappelled
ungetatable	reticulated	gyrocopter	esoteric	ricotta	conceit
unilaterally	authenticate	**medieval	grapheme	guttural	tapas
ordinance	fiscal	OR mediaeval	trigonometry	atrocious	sediment
ursine	oblige	licensure	alloy	vivacious	emulate
arduous	viscount	Herculean	Belgium	xenoglossy	caveat
carnitas	plague	pilgrimages	audacious	smorgasbord	doubloons
bulgogi	preferential	oriel	exasperate	electrode	oscillation
fibromyalgia	bazooka	preeminent	Mandarin	sporadically	enzyme
terrier	complacency	alfresco	Kelvin	sudation	dinero

Find the Bee on Social Media

Connect with us! If you're 13 or older, follow the Scripps National Spelling Bee on social media. You can find us on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter. Use #spellingbee.

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO

BEE Words of the Champions

	repudiate	coralline	manticore	acrylics	abysmal
comestibles	emporium	abhenry	chronomet	imminent	chambray
stenograph	Victorian	chromoso	er cherubic	hieroglyphi	rhombus
er	forestallme	me	wherewith	cs oculus	revendicat
mezzanine	nt Iberian	braggart	al	dubiously	e jonquil
lozenge	fluency	relentlessly	inquisitor	mariposa	pensive
tedious	invective	opalescenc	chemistry	teleology	quarantin
resonate	occur	e polyglot	quandary	bowyer	e
suspicion	claustrophob	velocirapt	equanimity	infatuatio	schnitzel
	ia idyllic	or puree	thermos	n	rialto

delphinium	equestrian	niacin	collapsar	ambidexterity	undulating
obelisk	nominal	courage	exhibition	mortgage	circumscribe
diurnal	draconian	arabesque	ministration	exhaust	ensemble
prejudice	trebuchet	ue	racketeer	baroque	bassoon
bombast	ransom	cylindric	solder	strengthen	preamble
ic cistern	iambic	al tephra	interim	n	feasibility
exquisite	monocle	lackadaisical	definiendum	ostracism	jurisdiction
epsilon	apocalypse	silhouette	neutron	hasten	mycology
petroglyphs	anticoagulant	dismal	epigram	bossa nova	antelope
specious	nt euro	consortium	marmoset	rationale	mansard
pumice	Gouda	m tuition	panache	betrothal	Stilton
zodiac	endocrine	multifarious	lucrative	laborious	barracks
artery	presumptuous	s	ardolatry	cardiopathy	rendition
ornithology	us doubt	unanimous	scrimshaw	vanity	calories
y apropos	unkempt	s soporific	ptero	nymphal	sortition
pessimism	cursive	tupelo	dactyl	grammarians	ballistic
amateurish	binoculars	cadaverous	inculcate	empirical	nattily
**intransigent	apportion	us	nimbostratus	havoc	tincture
OR	gurney	pro	vertebral	figurative	gosling
intransigent	sanctimonious	dromedary	racial	malacology	optometry
tyrannical	us	ry	acrimony	y	niche
pearlescent	peremptory	squalid	certitude	saskatoon	paragon
tautology	infarction	tracheotomy	mimeograph	enmity	foliage
misconstrue	cedar	y	territory		tribunal
sagacious	udon	firmament	ultimatum		
mammalian	gourd	paramount			
tranquil	verbatim	cy sultana			
behemoth	joule	agrarian			

Bee's Bookshelf

The Bee's Bookshelf is the official online book club of the Scripps National Spelling Bee. It's a place to explore the connection between stories and spelling. Each month, we read a new book together and share insights, so sign up to receive our monthly emails to find out which book is next. Visit spellingbee.com/bookshelf to learn more.

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO

BEE Words of the Champions

apostate	enthalpy	Hippocratic	brazenness	sufficiency	grievance
plundered	truculence	warrior	beautician	wayward	solemn
multitude	quagmire	brachiopods	covetous	yeoman	zealous
	masseuse	macaroon	flippancy	Websterian	portcullis
			sequester		urbanely

lanai	salinity	coupon	salutary	animalier	malleable
hyacinth	analogize	signatory	indubitable	endogenous	idiolect
segmentate	guineas	aspirate	obituary		irascible
convalesce	conglomerate	senator	obsidian		
vagary	**baklava	angular	bidialectal		
devoid	OR baklawa	concomitant	officiant	Beefalo	
promulgate	ipso facto	sundry	annexation	pavlova	

Did You Know?

The Scripps National Spelling Bee has declared co-champions in 1950, 1957, 1962, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2019. Diana Reynard and Colquitt Dean were the first co-champs in 1950.

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL

THREE BEE

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DIFFICULTY LEVEL: THREE

BEE School Spelling Bee Study List

lacrosse	stirrups	culminate	halogens	atmospheric	incomprehensibl
McIntosh	Connemara	helium	gallium	levees	e Merrimack
ignoble	abundance	steeplechasing	smelters	precariously	Sinai
diaphoresis	calamitous	Teflon	hymnal	proportionate	asparagus
kurta	dropsonde	bantam	tartaric	suffused	solace
Hyperion	proclamation	apprentice	bindi	accelerates	argyria
Geiger	hokum	reluctant	Haitian	coincidence	guanine
thermohaline	colossal	heritage	divan	prestigious	xylyl
gannet	coltan	sojourner	badminton	emphatic	therapeutic
palladium	squadron	derogatory	bayonet	contaminated	tumultuous
brevet	marinate	palsy	currycomb	Madagascar	commodore
pamphlet	anagrams	Lascaux	haughty	exposure	playwright
palindrome	verandas	synesthesia	hesitate	parachuted	senile
visite	OR verandahs	OR	opportunity	periodically	laryngitis
satsuma	Himalayan	synaesthesia	Apollo	intriguing	proximo
	aspersions	nefarious	accordance	absorptive	**guerrilla

OR guerilla	fixity	hydrargyrum	denouncement	misdemeanor	*misdemeanour
Giza	jodhpurs	carborane	Columbia	OR	

Our Namesake

Although the first national spelling bee occurred in 1925, it wasn't until 1941 that Scripps-Howard Newspapers, now known as The E.W. Scripps Company, assumed leadership of the program.

*chiefly British spelling

**preferred spelling

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DIFFICULTY LEVEL: THREE

BEE Words of the Champions

imaret	vaccary	en wakame	Fribourg	vestigial	polemic
cornichon	Adelaide	bathos	proselytizer	Orwellian	paladin
devastavit	unwonted	nihilism	OR	gimbale	totipotency
Mediterrane	tazza	ustion	*proselytiser	cabaletta	agnomen
an	damson	sumpsim	tenon	hesped	Bauhaus
longevous	pelisse	us morel	nubilous	umami	sacerdotal
digerati	succade	abeyance	iatrogenic	persiflage	skeuomorph
solecism	tumulus	rongeur	onychitis	toreador	binturong
hypertrop	dorsiflexor	mountebank	roux	vermicelli	mamushi
hy	profiterole	allelopathy	tuatara	frangipane	lipophilic
ravigote	valetudinar	capoeira	chicle	reseau	codicil
inchoate	y aristoi	agnolotti	sulcus	mouflage	coulomb
judoka	vireo	ballabile	thalamus	interpellate	violaceous
	rococo	draegerman	gyttja	genuflect	Rorschach
	lachsschink	prescient	jibboom	cinerarium	arthralgia

desman	adumbrate	ensilage	examen	habitué	risibility
jacaranda	depilatory	cabal	plumassier	OR habitue	Daliesque
huapango	bucolic	sotto voce	maxillae	kalanchoe	prognostica
predilection	milieu	inesculent	pseudonymo	warison	te gorgon
entomopha	woad	cicerone	us gentian	carapace	polydacty
gy	terpsichore	pusillanimo	synod	dauerlauf	ly bireme
paronomasi	strychnine	us	pompadour	emanant	aposemat
a facsimile	pissaladière	quidnunc	quatrefoil	carte	ic
renminbi	nilpotent	genoise	pasquinade	blanche	bijouterie
interferon	latitudinaria	arachnophago	Valkyrian	bodhran	inveighed
sedulous	n	us pirouetted	zymurgy	seiche	mostacci
velouté	voltammetr	bestial	histolysis	carmagno	oli
Aesopian	y	hallux	penurious	le encina	azedarac
frigate	rathskeller	jabot	Magellan	encephalit	h elision
enoptroman	asphyxiate	saponaceous	Reykjavík	is ritenuto	danseur
cy satiety	spondylitis	cyrillic	moussaka	effrontery	chevalier
perorate	sequoia	Adélie	serricorn	pastiche	taurine
**imbroglio	immure	manteau	Nereid	almoner	hierurgic
OR	theodicy	framboise	oyez	caldera	al melee
embroglio	politeia	littoral	Huguenot	querulous	emolume
ochlocracy	canard	jacana	acequia	hircine	nt
brioche	Lisztian	sommelier	adrenergic	rheumatic	ikebana
	gerundial	pikas			

On a Global Scale

At just 12 years old, Jody-Anne Maxwell, from Kingston, Jaimaica, was our first international champion. She won the Bee in 1998.

*chiefly British spelling

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: THREE

BEE Words of the Champions

	to	od	Sbrinz	megrims	anodyne
exaugural	millegrain	pulchritud	kathakali	podagra	saccharide
gaillardia	canaille	e pekoe	cozen	palaver	boulevardi
caryatid	verisimilitud	patois	oxalis	luthier	er quokka
heliacal	e	Rubicon	myeloma	yttriferous	lidocaine
schefflera	Keynesian	bourgeois	lebensraum	vermeil	contretem
contrappos	akaryote	aerophilatel	mufti	Ouagadoug	ps a
to temblor	azulejo	ic ankh	dirigible	ou	posteriori
insoucianc	hauberk	contumelio	surcease	bibliopegist	scaberulous
e catarrh	bouillon	us	ascetic	plagiarism	anaglyphy
quattrocen	tarpaulin	vicissitudes	oolite	holobenthic	reconnoiter
	cephalop	lilliputian	revanche	boutonniere	OR

reconnoitre	hermeneuti	guilloche	commorien	sebaceous	béchamel
realpolitik	cs tikkun	appositive	ts	papeterie	repoussage
colloque	macaque	dirndl	immiscible	litigious	otacoustic
onychorrhex	lassitude	latke	toroidal	phytophilous	naranjilla
is paraffin	oeuvre	martinet	bialy	meunière	elegiac
vigneron	altazimuth	asterion	appurtenanc	hilum	pâtissier
tannined	Castilian	hypallage	es corsair	fanfaronade	OR patissier
spiedini	trichinosis	solenoid	zabaglione	malachite	Yeatsian
anhinga	ecclesiolo	veridical	velamen	urticaria	surfeit
jai alai	gy	threnody	sporrán	capsaicin	limicolous
Rastafarian	teppanyaki	Jacobean	clematis	ptosis	girandole
succussion	cicatrise	ballotage	kente	pejerrey	googol
avifauna	somnolent	ocotillo	ranine	horologist	étagère
joropo	intonaco	dubitante	riparian	speleothem	anechoic
toxicosis	realia	disciform	**accoutrement	euripus	leonine
colporteur	grison	mizuna	OR	samarium	laulau
OR	phulkari	trichotillomani	accouterment	variscite	Gruyère
colporter	garrulous	a huipil	radicchio	bolide	propriocepti
agitprop	paroxysm	mustelid	dudgeon	vervain	ve oppugn
Achernar	communiq	prestidigitati	nitid	chanoyu	macroptero
cassock	ué	on soupçon	Basenji	hamadryad	us
meringue	Chantilly	diphtheria	concinmate	calumny	euphonious
mackinaw	jacquard	bdelloid	Stradivarius	escabeche	retinoscopy
sambal	sorghum	nugatory	synecdoche	ad hominem	sepulchral
yuloh			tulsi	oubliette	

Word Club

Want a new way to study? The Word Club app, launching in October 2019 in the App Store and the Google Play Store, will make mastering *Words of the Champions* fun! Choose from multiple different quiz and study options for both spelling and vocabulary, all with expert audio pronunciations from the Bee's official pronouncer, Dr. Jacques Bailly.

**preferred spelling

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DIFFICULTY LEVEL: THREE

BEE Words of the Champions

	oviparous	largesse	al	me	**aficionado
sangfroid	mangonel	s fulgent	pinniped	demurrage	OR
pasilla	coalescenc	olecrano	wahine	tristeza	afficionado
maringou	e	n	grissino	trigemin	piscivorous
in argot	Plantagene	toreutics	coterie	al bruja	benison
vicenary	t bauxite	mascarpo	sylph	upsilon	gagaku
ajimez	kakapo	ne rissole	katsura	sakura	amygdala
pompeii	pelagial	senesch	diastole	buccal	scurrilous
	ague		mediobro	zocalo	flèche

tetrachoric	hangul	repatee	planetesimal	au courant	s
sforzando	cartouches	chimera	taoiseach	crepuscul	dysphasia
thalassic	Nicoise	OR	obeisant	ar theca	kugel
frazil	OR Niçoise	*chimaera	whippoorwi	croustade	topazolite
rapprocheme	julienne	avgolemono	Il Ficus	kipuka	trompe
nt glaci	moiety	exiguous	agelicism	noumenon	l'oeil
ahimsa	pastitsio	presentient	subrident	chicanery	aillette
kanji	modiste	renvoi	ethylene	vilipend	fetticus
weltschmer	deuterium	kichel	flaneur	vitiate	rocaille
z jalousie	Icarian	semaphore	Ponzi	spodume	couvertur
ichthyology	pappardelle	gambol	tenerament	ne	e
pruritus	Sahel	angiitis	e styptic	leberwurs	lemniscu
dactylic	bibelot	Teutonic	sopapilla	t	s
affogato	telegnosis	Conestoga	nictitate	daguerreoty	ad
scrivener	loupe	zeitgeist	boutade	pe yakitori	nauseam
dysrhythmia	oleiculture	heinousne	towhee	pejorate	ganache
dragée	**loess	ss nacelle	escritoire	Aitutakian	sauger
choucroute	OR löss	rupicolous	affenpinsch	parterre	kanban
hsaing-wai	ruelle	Pythagore	er gudgeon	rondeau	toccata
ng	Ushuaia	an kepi	beaumonta	atlatl	pertinacit
stevedore	redingote	**bulgur	ge galoot	allochroou	y
harangue	adscititious	OR bulghur	desiccate	s ennui	gasthaus
niveau	hummock	ushabti	aporia	caisson	transmontan
rouille	internecine	puchero	moraine	cheongsa	e laterigrade
rescissible	duxelles	nival	hirsute	m	hyssop
Jungian	mesial	ascites	shubunkin	graticule	naumachi
Groenend	Feldenkrais	Véronique	hepatecto	gyascutus	a
ael facile	bailiwick	OR	my bloviate	cygnet	focaccia
chrysolite	bozzetto	Veronique	seine	superciliou	pahoehoe
execrable	coiffure		galapago		

Home Sweet Home

While many people think the Bee is headquartered in Washington, D.C., our hive is actually located in Cincinnati, Ohio.

*chiefly British spelling

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: THREE

BEE Words of the Champions

Kjeldahl	corrigend	sturnine	glazier	aniseikon	anaphylax
rubefacie	a Zanni	octonocul	kinesiolo	ia	is
nt halcyon	nonage	ar parallax	gy	guayaber	bobolink
	beurre	antenatus	exogenou	a	diluent
	jicama	trouvaille	s	realgar	urushiol

andouille	camembert	avuncular	nonpareil	illative	lokelani
otiose	ecchymos	habiliments	nyctinasty	betony	psoriasis
megacephal	is oppidan	rubato	pointelle	bêtise	bavardag
ic souchong	decastich	gentilitial	vinaigrette	transienc	e
poltroon	Naugahyde	obnebulate	tinnient	e frison	coulibiac
Freudian	lefse	allonym	aioli	flavedo	xyloglyph
floruit	beccafico	croquembouc	pochoir	maquilla	y
Bunyanesq	amphistyl	he kobold	glyceraldehy	ge	Aramaic
ue exsect	ar	mendicity	de	mortadell	anathe
champign	saturnine	castellated	hagiographer	a	ma
on	zaibatsu	toponymic	syncope	stanchion	basilica
bahuvrihi	titian	boudin	icosahedro	spirulina	rajpramuk
panjandrum	tokonoma	bucatini	n goanna	eleemosyna	h
catachresi	unguiculat	reboation	wassail	ry force	Chalcolithi
s tiffin	e	haupia	ammonite	majeure	c rinceau
colcannon	amaryllis	Keplerian	tanager	ossicle	filar
tournedos	reveille	codswallop	pneumatocy	anemone	bhangra
ormolu	regnal	hauteur	st fortissimo	alpargata	risorgimen
blottesque	attaché	camarilla	portmante	disembog	to agalma
consommé	rafflesia	nidicolous	au	ue	analgesi
OR	ranunculus	oxyacetylen	coaxation	luculent	a
consomm	pistou	ne queue	ardoise	expatiate	dengue
e ullage	scintillation	hellebore	farouche	xerogel	cantatric
zortzico	Bolognese	transhuman	farfalle	vizierial	e
teratism	farrago	ce phloem	ogival	crescive	emollien
flagellum	coup de	lacustrine	stretto	tryptophan	t
panegyric	grace	ageusia	coccygeal	neophyte	parquet
hoi polloi	tourelle	pillor	Diplodoc	buffa	dhurrie
sirenian	notturmo	deleterious	us	clavichor	lapidary
nescience	ginglymus	ikat	tachyon	d de	cachexia
blatherskit	hemorrhage	pylorus	piccata	rigueur	connoisse
e	tapetum	erythrobla	isagoge	secant	ur
consiglier	golem	st maillot	élan	comanche	ferruginou
e	krewe	epenthesis	breviloquen	ro meiosis	s
adiabatic	toque	hinoki	ce kalimba	gules	gendarme
				nimiety	

It's All Greek to Me

We often get questions about why we use words that may not appear to be English. Most words in the English language are words that we borrowed from other languages. We borrowed them, used them, and now call them our own.

BEE Words of the Champions

	ululate	extravasate	pendeloque	cormorant	derecho
demulcent	sororal	incunabula	beelzebub	gnomon	solipsist
goosander	epideictic	cordillera	rhinorrhagia	pinetum	sinophile
kwashiorkor	embolus	zazen	Foley	brucellosis	harmattan
lecithin	caveola	cabochon après	syzygy	wasteweir	**incarnadine
cetology	farina	zydeco	Beethovenian	diamanté	OR
plenipotentiary	heuristic	consanguine	tatterdemalion	sphygmometer	encarnadine
foudroyant	nudibranch	bibimbap	susurrus	**kibitzer	
sesquipedalian	triquetra	aquiclude	**bienvenue	OROR kibbitzer	
expugnable	paramahansa	demitasse	biennu	auteur	
profligacy	duello	tomalley	potwalloper	labefaction	
yosenabe	fjeld	bouffant	kaffeeklatsch	ibidem	
funori	tomography	bas-relief	peregrination	estival	
piloncillo	effleurage	rhizome	paraquat	OR aestival	
xiphias	chastushka	Wensleydale	prana	loup-garou	
étouffée	bergère	erubescence	sinciput	empennage	dulcinea
OR etouffee	Erewhonian	estovers	abattoir	lysozyme	nainsook
degauss	rhyton	rembrandt	glossopetrae	grimthorpe	querida
tussock	orogeny	bonspiel	diktat	thaumaturge	paillard
lanolated	Pepysian	hackamore	llanero	pinioned	gazoz
linnet	esplanade	blancmange	Machiavellian	fouetté	Glaswegian
embouchure	gesellschaft	simulacrum	glaucomatous	venenate	stannum
plangency	tamari	cnidarian	haori	badinage	putsch
apocryphal	arenaceous	capotasto	rheostat	saccadic	tralatitious
tamarack	panettone	Panagia	hariolation	mignonette	denouement
puerilely	tmesis	nockerl	thylacine	coadjutor	hortatory
obloquy	clerihew	rhabdoid	cenote	chiffonade	maquette
dhole	tsukupin	apodyterium	griffonage	haricot	obliviscence
**budgerigar	katakana	apoplexy	fossiliferous	Luddite	autophagy
OR	Parmentier	verdure	calefacient	wickiup	Airedale
budgereegah	rugose	fait accompli	obdurate	nisse	potager
OR budgerygah	brume	dreikanter	nunchaku	impugn	malleolus
outré	hiortdahlite	penicillin	senryu	brouillon	

One Dictionary to Rule them All

The only source for the Scripps National Spelling Bee is the Merriam-Webster Unabridged Online Dictionary.
(<http://unabridged.merriam-webster.com/>)

**preferred spelling