

Spelling Bee Games

Alphabet Sprint

How to play?

Students can use these activities during free time in class to prepare for the Spelling Bee. There are two versions of each activity: one for students to practice alone, and one they can do in pairs or groups.

Level: Elementary

Age: Children (Primary)

Time needed: 10 minutes

Aim: Practice Spelling Bee skills while reviewing vocabulary related to a specific topic or lesson

Skills: Spelling, Vocabulary, Writing

Materials needed: Worksheets, pen or pencil

Collaborative Variant

Students perform the same tasks as in the individual practice, but in small groups and with a specific time limit. When the time is up, group members trade lists to check each other's spelling and compare lists to see how many of the same words everyone wrote down. The goal is to collectively have at least one correct word (or more, depending on the level) for each letter of the alphabet.

Teacher Tips

This activity could be useful for increasing students' vocabulary. If students struggle to write words for each letter, give them time to use the dictionary. This activity can be adapted to your class level.

Warm-up Tips

Before playing, give students time to walk around the classroom and gather as many objects as they can, for example, they can take an apple, a book, a card, etc. Ask them to place the object in specific places for each letter, e.g., an apple for A.

If there are time limitations, you can give specific letters to each student so that they can complete this task more quickly. Also, you can limit the finding to very specific letters just to have a quick review before playing.

Individual Practice

- Give each student a copy of the worksheet with the alphabet list.
- Explain to students they will have limited time to write down a word that starts with each letter of the alphabet as quickly as possible.
- Time students by using a phone, a chronometer, or a watch.
- When they finish, ask students to check if they spelled all of the words correctly by using a dictionary.
- If they made some mistakes, give them time to try again or correct their answers.