

Spelling Bee Games

Climbing the Ladder

How to play?

Students can use these activities to review vocabulary items or to prepare for a 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: Starters (Pre A1 - A1)

Age: Children (Primary)

Time needed: 10 minutes

Aim: Practice Spelling Bee skills and review vocabulary related to a specific topic or lesson

Skills: Spelling, Vocabulary, Listening

Materials needed: Worksheets

Collaborative Variant

Divide students into pairs and follow a similar approach. Let students choose a word to challenge their classmate. Explain that Student A will say the word for Student B and viceversa.

Warm-up Tips

Go over the alphabet with your students. You can do it first A to Z, then backwards, then vowels and consonants, etc. Variety will help students learn the letters better.

Individual Practice

1. Choose a word and say it out loud. Students should write that word on the bottom step of the ladder.
2. Write the word on the board (or spell it out). Students can continue to the next step if they get the word correctly. They must start a new ladder if they do not get it correctly.
3. Continue like this and ask students to add as many steps to the ladder as needed. They should start a new ladder if they make a mistake (even if they are near the top).
4. First student(s) to the top of the ladder wins!
5. After the activity, have students fix any words they spelled incorrectly.