

Spelling Bee Games

Word Chop

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: 10-15 minutes

Aim: Practice Spelling Bee skills while reviewing specific vocabulary

Skills: Spelling, Vocabulary

Materials needed: Worksheets, pen or pencil, scissors

Warm-up Tips

Before playing, remind students about the Bingo Dog song and sing together. Then give them a new word instead of *Bingo* and ask them to sing using that word. You can substitute letters with claps or other sounds. After this introduction, explain the game rules.

Individual Practice

- Ask students to write down a list of the most challenging words. This list should be in the left column.
- Then explain to students that they have to re-write the words with big letters in the right column. Remind them to put some space between the letters.
- Ask students to cut out the letters.
- Ask students to put the letters into an envelope and shake it.
- Then students pour out the letters from the envelope and try to spell the words without checking their list.
- When they finish, give them time to check their spelling against their list. If students spelled all the words correctly, they can mark the circles in the left column in green. Incorrect words should not be marked.
- At the bottom of the chart, students can write their final score.

Collaborative Variant

Divide students into pairs and follow a similar approach. Give the following instructions:

Student A: Complete steps 1–4 and pass the envelope to Student B. Read the words from the list to Student B. Do not spell the words.

Student B: Pour out the letters from the envelope and try to spell the words.

Student A: If Student B has trouble figuring out the words, say a sentence using each of the words. When Student B is finished, check the spelling, giving Student B another chance to correct any mistakes. If the words are correct, swap roles.

Teacher Tips

Collaborative variant would allow students to get to know and practice the Spelling Bee contest structure. The worksheet has a scoring tracker to play and compete together. This worksheet also allows you and your students to keep track of those challenging words that might need further practice.