

# Spelling Bee Games

## Alphabet Beans

### How to play?

Students can use these activities during free time in class to prepare for the Spelling Bee. This activity can be done 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, Listening

**Materials needed:** Beans, pen or pencil

- Award one point for each correct word. Put the beans back in the container and start again to play several rounds.
- The same approach can be used for group practice.

### Teacher Tips

If students are struggling with words or spelling, you can give them time to review the dictionary and write some words in their notebooks. They can repeat each word three times while saying each letter aloud.

### Warm-up Tips

Before playing, choose a student and ask them to say a word with a specific letter, e.g., *Tell me a word with letter M! / Mouse!* Then ask another student to spell the word given by their classmate. Try to do it very quickly and dynamically. Repeat three to five times before giving game instructions.

### Instructions

- Cut several beans in advance and use a marker to write out the letters of the alphabet within the beans. You might need to repeat some letters like R, S, T, L, and N and all the vowels.
- Depending on your class size, you may need more letters to ensure that students have enough letters to work with, especially at lower levels where making words might be more challenging.
- Put the beans in a container and shake it.
- Have students pour out some beans or scoop the beans with a spoon. You can attach paper clips to the beans and build a fishing rod with a magnet to make it more fun.
- Give students a time limit (one or two minutes) to set as many words as possible with the beans they take out.