

2019 Palm Beach County Super Summer Camp Spelling Bee

RULES

1. All competitors must be enrolled in a school within Palm Beach County, enrolled in PBC 2019 Summer Camp Scholarship Program, or Summer Food Program.
2. Competitors will consist of incoming K – 12 students.
3. All names of competitors should be emailed to YSD-spellingbee@pbcgov.org by 6/28/19.
 - a. An E-Form will be provided to all camps for an easier submission of competitors. If for any reason, you are not able to submit online, email YSD-spellingbee@pbcgov.org and ask to submit a paper registration form.
 - b. Competitors are required to complete the Palm Beach County Consent, Release and Waiver of Liability form found within the E-Form.
 - c. Any and all paper submissions can be either emailed at (YSD-spellingbee@pbcgov.org) or faxed at (561-242-7232) it to **Gus Wessel** by 6/28/19.
4. Any necessary accommodations need to be submitted along with the names of each competitor by 6/28/19. YSD staff and partners will make appropriate ADA accommodations to meet the special needs of competitors.
5. Parent(s), camp counselor(s) and guardian(s) are required to stay in the designated area. They are not allowed to assist the competitors during the competition. Failure to comply may result in competitor's disqualification or removal of the disruptive party.
 - a. Students and camp Staff must abide by a good code of conduct at all times
6. Camp counselors are expected to supervise their campers at all time.
 - a. Campers and competitors are required to wear their camp shirt during the competition.
 - b. Parents and counselors must remain quiet during the spelling bee
 - c. No staff member or parent can be on stage at any time
7. Camps **MUST** register their top three (3) competitors for each category on or before 6/28/19.
8. Camps will be allowed a maximum of twelve (12) competitors. There will not be any additions or substitutions on the day of the bee.
9. Competitors will have to sign in at the front desk when dropped off. Any excess campers must report to the predetermined area for entertainment. Camp staff must provide a list of campers that are going to be at the predetermined area upon dropping off competitors.
 - a. There will be 4 competition rooms with each category competing in one of the rooms.
 - i. There will be at least one (1) Youth Services Department staff member assigned to each room.
 - ii. There will be three (3) judges for each room
 - iii. One (1) camp staff member has to accompany the competitor per category. 1:3 is the preferred ratio.
10. Each category will have their preliminary round in different areas. Categories consist of competitors in grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12.
11. There is no registration on the day of the bee (**No Exceptions**)
 - a. Camps that do not send competitors names will not be on the roster to compete.
 - b. Only **registered** competitors are allowed to compete
 - c. No additions after registration deadline
 - d. No competitor substitutions
 - e. No late entries after the competition begins
 - f. Students that are not present by **8:45 AM** will be removed from the Category Roster.
 - i. Updated roster will be provided for the judges when the competition begins.
12. At the end of the Preliminary round, the top three (3) competitors of each category will advance to the finals.

Pronouncer:

1. Words shall be pronounced according to **Dictionary.com**
2. After the pronouncer gives the competitor a word, the competitor **may** pronounce the word before and after spelling it. However, the competitor is **not required** to pronounce the word correctly. The competitor is also not required to note the capitalization of a word.
3. The competitor may ask the pronouncer for a definition, sentence, part of speech, language(s) of origin and alternate pronunciations. The pronouncer will not provide root words explanation, take questions or requests from anyone. The pronouncer shall grant all acceptable requests until the judges agree that the word has been made reasonably clear to the competitor. The judges may disqualify any competitor who ignores a request to start spelling within 30 seconds.
4. Upon misspelling a word, the competitor is eliminated from the contest. The next word on the pronouncer list is given to the next competitor.
5. Each category will produce three (3) champions (*categories: K-2nd grade, 3rd-5th grade, 6th-8th grade, 9th-12th grade*).

Competitor:

1. The spelling bee will be conducted in rounds. Each competitor remaining in the bee at the start of a round will spell one word in the round.
2. The pronouncer may offer word information— without the competitor having requested the information. After the pronouncer gives the competitor a word, the competitor **may** pronounce the word before and after spelling it. However, the competitor is **not required** to pronounce the word correctly. The competitor is also not required to note the capitalization of a word.
3. The competitor may ask the pronouncer for a definition, sentence, part of speech, language(s) of origin, and alternate pronunciations. The pronouncer will not provide root words explanation, take questions or requests from anyone. The pronouncer shall grant all acceptable requests until the judges agree that the word has been made reasonably clear to the competitor. The judges may disqualify any competitor who ignores a request to start spelling.
4. In a spelling round, the competitor shall face the judges and clearly state each letter distinctly and with sufficient volume to be heard by the judges.
5. A competitor may stop and start over, retracing the spelling from the beginning. But after starting over there can be **NO CHANGE** of letters from those first pronounced, unless the competitor is competing in the K-2 category. If the sequence changed in the respelling of the word, the competitor is automatically eliminated. A competitor in the K-2 category may change a letter if they have not already completed the spelling of the word.

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6. Upon missing the spelling of a word, the competitor is eliminated from the competition. The next word on the pronouncer's list is given to the next competitor.
7. Eliminated competitors will be seated separately.
8. If a competitor whispers, yells out, blurts out, helps or distracts another competitor during the spelling process, the competitor causing the distraction will be eliminated automatically and removed by YSD Staff.
9. There are four different competitive categories; competitors are placed in their entrance grade level for the 2018-2019 school year. The judges can administer as many rounds deemed necessary until there is one to three competitors remaining in each category. Towards the end of the semi-final, if there are more than three (3) competitors after the judges already administered all the words from the grade level list of words, all the words are spelled correctly, then the judges will ask competitors to spell words from the next grade up.

Championship round:

All competitors who have not been eliminated in the semi-final will be advanced to the final; each competitor will spell one word in each round. Upon incorrectly spelling a word, the competitor is eliminated from the competition if the next competitor spells the word correctly. The pronouncer will give each competitor a new word. All competitors eliminated in the same round are tied for the same place. Next Level words will be utilized to break a tie between two competitors in the same category. If the tying competitor both spell correctly or both misspell their championship words in the same round, the competitors will be given new words to spell from the same list. Awards will be given at the end of all competition.

Judges' role:

1. The judges uphold the rules and determine whether or not words are spelled correctly.
2. One judge in each category will be assigned the role of pronouncer as well as judge.
3. Misunderstandings: The judges may participate in the exchange of information between the competitors and pronouncer if they feel that clarification is needed. Also, the judges listen carefully to the competitor's pronunciation of the word; and, if they sense that the competitor has misunderstood the word, the judges will work with the competitor and pronouncer until they are satisfied that reasonable attempts have been made to assist the competitor in understanding the word. While the judges are responsible for attempting to detect a competitor's misunderstanding, it is sometimes impossible to detect a misunderstanding until an error has been made. The judges are not responsible for the competitor's misunderstanding.
4. Follow the following procedure during contest:
 - a. Pronounce the Word
 - b. Keep track of all competitors – ensure disqualified competitors have been crossed off of the list
 - c. Write all words that were previously used to prevent duplication
5. Attend judge training on following date: **Last Week of June**
 - a. Training will be at the following address: 50 South Military Trail, West Palm Beach Florida 33415
 - i. Room: **TBD**
6. YSD Food Staff will provide laptops with internet access during the competition.

Appeals:

1. This is local countywide competition for improving reading and increasing literacy. There are no appeals subsequent to any judges' decision.

Feedback:

1. The camp, competitors' parent(s) or legal guardians or competitors may provide feedback by sending an email to YSD-spellingbee@pbcgov.org or a letter to:

Youth Services Department
Super Summer Spelling Bee
50 S. Military Trail #203
West Palm Beach Florida 33415