

Schoolhouse Spelling Bee

A cartoon bee character is integrated into the letter 'B' of the word 'Bee'. The bee has a yellow and black striped body, large white eyes with black pupils, and two antennae. It is positioned behind the letter 'B', with its wings visible on the left side of the letter.

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A

ABYSS: a bottomless hole or pit.

ACCESSIBLE: that can be reached, entered or understood.

ACCOMMODATION: a place to stay, for example a hotel or apartment.

ACCOMPANIMENT: an instrumental or vocal part designed to support or complement a melody.

ACCUSATION: a statement saying that someone has done something wrong. **OR:** The fact of accusing someone.

ACHIEVER: someone who successfully reaches a goal.

ACKNOWLEDGE: to admit or confess that something is true.

ACQUAINTED: having information especially as a result of study or experience or being familiar with someone or something.

ADHERE: to stick to something as by gluing.

AGGREGATE: something formed by adding two or more amounts or things together.

AGGRESSIVE: offensive, ready to attack.

AILMENT: an illness or disorder of the body.

ALoud: not silently, in a normal voice.

AMBIDEXTROUS: able to use both hands equally well.

AMBIGUOUS: confusing or uncertain because it is not clear.

AMORPHOUS: not having a definite form or shape.

ANALYZE / ANALYSE: to study or determine the nature and relationship of the parts of something by analysis.

ANNOUNCEMENT: something someone says officially giving information.

ANNOYANCE: slight anger; the feeling of being annoyed.

ANONYMOUS: not named or identified.

ANTHEM: a song of praise or devotion such as a hymn.

ANTONYM: a word which means the opposite of another word.

APOLOGIZE/APOLOGISE: to say one is sorry.

APPARATUS: a set of materials or equipment designed for a particular use.

APPEALING: attractive or interesting.

ARCHEOLOGY / ARCHAEOLOGY: the study of objects that belonged to people that lived in the past so as to learn about their culture.

ARGUING: to give reasons for or against something.

ASPHYXIATING: causing asphyxia or not being able to breathe.

ASYLUM: a place where someone can be safe and secure; a refuge.

ATHLETE: a person that is trained or competes in physical exercises like sports.

AWKWARD: inconvenient, strange or clumsy.

B

BALDNESS: not covered with hair.

BANKRUPTCY: the condition of financial failure caused by not having the money you need to pay your debts.

BARGAIN: (n) something bought at a very good or cheap price. (v) - To negotiate the price.

BAREFOOT: without anything on one's feet.

BATTALION: a military unit consisting of three or more companies.

BEHAVIOR / BEHAVIOUR: the way a person acts or behaves.

BEWILDER: to confuse.

BLIZZARD: a severe snowstorm characterized by cold temperatures and heavy drifting of snow.

BLOSSOM: (n) the flower of a seed or a plant. (v) To bloom.

BROCHURE: a pamphlet which advertises or promotes something.

BUOY: a floating object anchored in a lake, river, etc. to mark a channel, warn of a danger.

BUREAUCRACY: the concentration of authority in a complex structure of administrative offices or bureaus.

C

CAMOUFLAGE: the disguise or the hiding of something especially of military equipment.

CARBOHYDRATE: any of various neutral compounds of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen (such as sugars, starches, and celluloses).

CATASTROPHE: a disastrous or tragic end.

CATHOLIC: relating to or forming part of Catholicism.

CEASE: to stop.

CHIROPRACTIC: the science and art based on the theory that physical problems are caused by interference with nerve function; it uses manipulation of the body joints, esp. of the spinal column.

CHOIR: an organised group of singers.

COLLEAGUE: a member or associate in a profession.

COLLOQUIALISM: a local, regional or dialectal expression.

CONCEITED: showing too much pride in one's abilities or achievements.

CONDEMN: 1. to declare to be reprehensible, wrong, or evil usually after considering evidence and without reservation. 2. To pronounce guilty.

CONSCIENCE: a moral sense of right and wrong.

CONSCIOUSNESS: 1. The state of being awake and being able to think and notice things. 2. The state of having knowledge of something.

CONVEY: to communicate by statement, suggestion, gesture, or appearance.

COURTEOUS: marked by respect and consideration for others.

CRUMB: a small fragment of something that is baked - like bread, for example.

CURFEW: a rule which states that everyone must stay at home between particular times, usually at night.

D

DECEASED: dead.

DECEITFUL: having a tendency or disposition to be dishonest.

DIAPHRAGM: the partition of muscles and tendons between the chest cavity and the abdominal cavity; midriff.

DIARRHEA/ DIARRHOEA: an illness that causes the body to pass waste in a more liquid form than usual.

DISAGREEABLE: someone or something that is unpleasant or causes discomfort.

DISCOURAGE: to take away the spirit or confidence.

DISGUISE: a dress or costume that is different from the clothes you normally wear.

DOUGH: a consistent mixture of flour, milk or water to roll.

DROUGHT: a period of lack of rain especially when prolonged.

DUMB: lacking the ability of speech.

DYE: a coloring substance for many different materials.

DYSLEXIC: someone or something presenting characteristics related to dyslexia which is a learning disability manifesting itself in difficulties in reading and writing.

DWARF: a very short person with a disproportioned body.

E

EARTHQUAKE: a shaking or trembling of the earth.

EASEL: a frame for supporting something like a painting that an artist is working on.

ECSTASY: a state of overwhelming emotion.

EGYPTIAN: related to or characteristic of Egypt.

EMBARRASSED: feeling ashamed or uncomfortable.

EMPLOYEE: someone that works for another person earning a salary.

ENVIRONMENT: 1. the circumstances, objects or conditions by which we are surrounded. 2. The physical, chemical and biotic factors that act on an ecological community.

EQUIPPING: supplying the necessary items for a particular place or activity.

ESTEEM: the regard in which one is held.

ETYMOLOGY: the origin or history of a word.

EXHILARATED: feeling cheerful and excited.

EXCEEDINGLY: very, very; to an extreme.

EYELASHES: the hairs at the edge of the eyelid.

F

FLUORESCENT: light produced when electricity flows through a tube filled with a certain gas.

FORECAST: to calculate or predict a future event normally as a result of examining information.

FOREIGNER: a person from another country.

FRAGILE: easily broken, destroyed or delicate.

G

GHETTO: a part of a city where members of a minority group live in inferior conditions and have fewer opportunities.

GHOSTLY: having the characteristics of a ghost or spirit, spectral.

GOVERNMENT: a body that has authority and performs a political function.

GRAFFITI: words and/or drawings of humorous, rude or political nature in public places.

GRATEFUL: thankful for the benefits received.

GROTESQUE: being strange and unpleasant especially in a silly and slightly frightening way.

GROWL: to make a rough, low sound, usually in anger.

GUARANTEE: a promise stating that something will be done by a company to repair or change a product within a particular period of time.

H

HALLUCINATION: a perception of objects that don't exist in reality usually because you are ill or have taken a drug.

HARBOR / HARBOUR: a body of water protected for ships to anchor in.

HEIR: someone who inherits an endowment, money or valuables from a parent or predecessor.

HERD: a number of animals of one kind kept together.

HICCUP/HICCOUGH: a sudden, involuntary contraction of the diaphragm producing an abrupt sound.

HIDEOUS: offensive to the senses and especially to sight.

HIERARCHY: people in the upper levels who control the organization.

HOLLOW: a place that is completely empty.

HOLY: worthy of complete devotion as one perfect in goodness and righteousness.

HOMONYM: referring to two or more words that are spelled and pronounced the same but are different in meaning.

HOMOPHONE: two or more words with the same sound but different spelling.

HOOLIGAN: a hoodlum or wild person.

HURRICANE: A tropical cyclone with circular winds of 119 kms. per hour or even higher occurring especially in the West Atlantic.

HYDRANT: a vertical pipe, often seen at the side of a road to obtain water, especially when there is a fire.

HYMN: a song of praise and glorification.

HYPNOTIZED / HYPNOTISED: a person who has been induced to a sleeping state that is like a trance.

HYPOCRISY: pretending to be what one or something is not.

HYPOTHESIS: an assumption from which to start a discussion.

I

ILLEGIBLE: impossible or almost impossible to read.

IMMERSE: to put into something that surrounds or covers.

IMMIGRANTS: people who come to a country to live.

IMMORTALITY: the quality or state of never being forgotten.

IMMUNE: protected against a particular disease by specific substances in the blood.

IMPAIRMENT: the state of not being as good or damaged.

INACCURATE: not exact or correct.

INERTIA: lack of activity or interest, not wanting to make an effort to do anything.

INHERITOR: the beneficiary or heir to possessions or valuables.

INNATE: existing from the time of birth.

INNOCUOUS: producing no injury, harmless.

ISLE: synonym for island.

ISSUE: a subject or problem that people are thinking and talking about.

J

JEALOUSY: the quality or condition of being jealous or envious.

JEOPARDY: exposure to great danger.

JUDGEMENT / JUDGMENT: a formal decision given by a court.

JUVENILE: relating to or meant for young people.

K

KEENNESS: a quick and penetrating intelligence.

KIDNAPPED: the action of having taken a person away illegally and by force often demanding ransom.

KNAPSACK: a bag used for carrying personal objects that people carry strapped on their back or shoulder.

KNIT: join or weave together thread or yarn.

L

LABYRINTH: 1. A maze as in a garden formed by paths separated by high hedges. 2. Something extremely complex and confusing.

LARYNGITIS: the swelling or irritation of the larynx usually caused by an infection.

LAUNCHED: the action of having thrown forward into the air or water or set in motion.

LAWN: the ground around the house, park or garden that is covered with grass which is cut regularly.

LEISURE: free time from work or duties.

LEUKEMIA/ LEUKAEMIA: an abnormal increase in the production of leukocytes.

LICENSE: an official document that shows you have permission to act, own or use something.

LIGHTWEIGHT: someone or something that does not weigh much.

LIMB: a leg or an arm of a human being.

LUGGAGE: a set of suitcases for travelling.

LUNCHEON: a formal lunch at which a meeting usually takes place.

LUXURIOUS: something appearing comfortable and expensive.

M

MASQUERADE: a way of appearing or behaving that is not real or true.

MASTERPIECE: a work of art such as a painting, film or book done with extraordinary skill.

MAUSOLEUM: a building housing a tomb

MAYONNAISE: a thick yellowish-white sauce used especially in salads.

MEADOW: a piece of land covered with grass.

MEASLES: an infectious disease that produces small red spots all over the body, which we usually have during childhood. Also, called rubeola.

MEDALLION: a large metal disc that is worn around the neck as decoration.

MELLOW: gentle and sweet, pleasant.

METAPHYSICAL: related to things that we believe to exist but cannot be seen.

MISBEHAVE: not to behave or conduct oneself properly.

MISCARRIAGE: a medical situation in which a baby is born too early and cannot survive.

MISCELLANEOUS: consisting of diverse things that are not connected to one another.

MISCHIEVOUS: able to cause mischief or trouble.

MISUNDERSTAND: not to understand or comprehend correctly.

MOISTURE: liquid condensed in a small quantity or causing a little dampness.

MONARCH: a king or a queen that reigns.

MONOTONOUS: unvarying, not changing so becoming boring.

MOUNTAINOUS: containing many mountains.

MOURNING: the sadness felt or the act of sorrowing for someone's death.

MYSTERY: something not understood or beyond understanding.

MYTHOLOGY: an allegorical narrative.

N

NAÏVE: too ready to believe someone or something, or to trust that someone's intentions are good.

NAUGHTY: disobedient, someone with bad behaviour.

NEIGHBORHOOD / NEIGHBOURHOOD: a community or district in which people live near one another.

NEPHEW: the son of one's brother, sister or sister-in-law.

NIGHTMARE: a frightening dream that usually awakens the sleeper.

NOURISHMENT: the food that you need to keep healthy.

NUMBNESS: the inability to feel a part of your body or an emotion due to shock.

NUN: a woman belonging to a religious order.

NURSERY: a child's bedroom or a place where they are looked after in their parents' absence.

O

OBEYED: followed commands or orders.

OCCASIONALLY: now and then, not very frequently.

ODYSSEY: a long journey usually marked by changes of fortune.

ORPHANAGE: a home in which children live when not under the care of their parents or relatives.

OSTRICH: a very large African bird that can run very fast but can't fly.

OUTRAGEOUS: shocking because it is unusual or morally unacceptable.

OWE: be under the obligation to pay or pay back a certain quantity of money.

OWNERSHIP: the fact of being an owner.

OYSTER: a bivalve mollusc that has a rough irregular shell.

P

PARACHUTE: an object used when jumping out of an aeroplane to slow down the fall.

PARALLELOGRAM: a quadrilateral shape with opposite sides parallel and equal.

PARALYZE/ PARALYSE: to cause a person, animal or part of the body to lose the ability to move or feel.

PARENTHESIS: an explanation or comment added to a sentence usually separated by commas.

PARLIAMENT: a legislative body which consists of two chambers or houses - the congress and the senate.

PARSLEY: a plant with small green leaves that is used in cooking.

PAVILION: 1. a large tent, usually with a peaked top. 2. a building or part of a building, often partly open and highly ornamented, used for entertainment, exhibits, etc., as at a fair or park.

PEER: relating to someone the same age, social position or known to have the same abilities as other people.

PENICILLIN: a type of antibiotic or medicine that kills bacteria.

PERCEIVE: to see or notice something or someone.

PERSONNEL: the people employed in a company or organization.

PESSIMISM: thinking or emphasizing the bad part of a situation. Considering that bad things are more likely to happen than good things.

PHANTOM: a ghost.

PHARAOH: a ruler of ancient Egypt.

PHARMACEUTICAL: related to the production of drugs or medicine.

PHEASANT: a large bird with a rounded body and a long tail, often hunted for food or sport.

PHENOMENON: something that exists that can be seen, felt or tasted especially if it is unusual or interesting.

PHILOSOPHER: someone who knows or writes about philosophy.

PHONICS: a method to teach children to read English by establishing the value of letter groups and syllables.

PHLEGMATIC: apathetic or indifferent.

PHONOGRAPH: record player or a machine that reproduces sound.

PHYSICIAN: a medical doctor.

PICTURESQUE: having the qualities of a picture; charming.

PIERCED: having the flesh punctured for the use of jewellery.

PIGEON: family of birds with a stout body, short legs, and smooth and compact plumage.

PILGRIMAGE: a journey to a shrine or other sacred place.

PLEASURABLE: enjoyable, agreeable.

PNEUMONIA: a serious illness of the lungs that makes it difficult to breathe.

POISONOUS: something that causes sickness or death because it contains poison or it is toxic.

POLITICIAN: a person involved in party politics as a profession.

PORTRAIT: a pictorial representation of a person usually showing the face.

POSSESSION: something owned by a person and under his control. One's property.

POUR: to cause to flow in a steady manner.

PRECOCIOUS: greatly developed beyond his/her age.

PREDECESSOR: 1. a person who had a job before someone else.
2. a thing that comes before another.

PREGNANCY: being pregnant; going to have a baby.

PREJUDICE: an opinion or judgement formed before having all the facts.

PROJECTOR: an object for showing images on a screen or whiteboard.

PRONOUNCE: the use of the organs of speech to produce sounds of language.

PRONUNCIATION: the act or way of pronouncing something correctly.

PSYCHE: the mind, the deepest feelings or thoughts.

PSYCHOLOGY: the scientific study of the mind and how it influences behaviour.

PUNCTURE: a hole, perforation or a wound.

PURCHASE: to buy

Q

QUARREL: argue or have an active dispute.

QUESTIONNAIRE: a set of questions for obtaining statistically useful or personal information or opinions from individuals.

QUEUE: a waiting line of people.

R

REAPPEARANCE: the act of presenting oneself in public again.

REASSURANCE: the act of being assured again by restoring confidence.

RECEIPT: a paper used as proof of having received money or goods/merchandise.

RECRUITMENT: the process of persuading someone to work for a company or join an organization.

RECKLESS: lack of proper caution or care.

RECYCLING: the process paper, glass or plastic suffers so we can use it again.

REFEREE: a sports authority on the field or court.

REGGAE: a type of popular music from Jamaica containing elements of rock and soul music.

REHEARSAL: practice session before a public appearance.

REIGN: royal authority.

REINDEER: large animal with antlers on its head in both sexes.

RETRIEVE: to find and bring back OR remember.

RHETORIC: the skill of writing and speaking effectively.

RHEUMATIC: affected with rheumatism which causes stiffness and a pain in the joints.

RHYME: repetition of identical or similar sounds in two or more different words that is most often used in poetry and song.

RHYTHM: 1. the aspect of music which takes into account tempo, meter and accent. 2. a repeated pattern of sounds and movement.

RIDICULOUS: absurd or laughable.

ROUGH: coarse, not smooth.

ROUTE: a highway or road.

S

SAPPHIRE: a precious stone or gem which is different shades of blue.

SCARECROW: an object resembling a person that we put in the fields to keep away the birds from the crops.

SCENE: 1. the place where an event has happened. 2. a part of a play or film that occurs in one place.

SCENT: a pleasant natural smell.

SCHEDULE: a timetable, a list of planned activities to be done on a specific date and time.

SCHEME: a plan or program of action.

SCISSORS: an instrument for cutting paper, fabric or material.

SERGEANT: an officer in the police or military forces.

SERIOUSNESS: the quality or state of being serious.

SHALLOW: having little depth or a short distance from the top to the bottom.

SHREWD: able to judge a situation accurately and turn it to your own advantage.

SIEGE: the blockade of a place by an armed force so as to defeat those defending it.

SIGHTSEEING: the activity of visiting famous or interesting places in an area.

SILHOUETTE: the outline of a figure or garment.

SKYSCRAPER: a very tall building.

SLAUGHTER: to kill animals for food.

SLEEVELESS: a piece of clothing with no sleeves which is the part that covers the arms.

SLEDGE: a sled or vehicle for transporting cargo or passengers over snow or ice pulled by dogs or horses.

SLEIGH: an open vehicle for use on snow or ice usually pulled by a horse.

SLIPPERY: causing or tending to cause something to slide or fall.

SOLEMN: serious, marked by the observance of an established form.

SOLITAIRE: 1. a card game played by one person. 2. a piece of jewellery with one precious stone.

SORE: causing pain, painfully sensitive.

SOUVENIR: something that one keeps to help remember a special occasion or place.

SPAGHETTI: pasta made in thin solid strings.

SPHERE: a round object.

SPONTANEOUS: something that we say or do without thinking or planning too much.

SQUEEZABLE: said of something that can be compressed or on which we can exert pressure.

STARE: to look at something or someone in a fixed way.

STEREOTYPES: a fixed idea of what something or someone is like.

STINGY: not generous with money or things.

STOMACHACHE/ STOMACH ACHE: a pain in the stomach which is where the food goes after passing through the oesophagus/esophagus.

STRAIGHT: having no curves, bends, or angles.

STRAIGHTEN: to make straight or not bend.

STRENGTHS: the quality or state of being strong.

STRENGTHEN: to make something stronger or more effective.

STROLL: to walk in a slow relaxed manner.

STRUGGLE: to try hard to obtain or achieve something that is difficult.

STUBBORNNESS: inflexibility or obstinacy.

SUBJECT: one of many departments of learning that you study at school.

SUBTLE: not obvious; hard to see or notice.

SUCCESSFUL: ending in success or favourably.

SUCCESSOR: someone or something that comes after another person or thing.

SUITABLE: adequate for a certain use or purpose.

SUNBATHE: to lie in the sun

SURGEON: a medical specialist who practices surgery (an operation).

SURVEILLANCE: A close watch over something or someone.

SURVEY: an examination of the situation, condition and value.

SWALLOW: the action of passing through the mouth and esophagus to the stomach.

SWEEP: to take away from a surface with a broom or brush.

SYLLABLE: a word or part of a word pronounced with a single, uninterrupted sounding of the voice.

SYMMETRY: balanced proportions, the correspondence of size and shape of opposite sides.

SYMPATHY: 1. an understanding or care for someone else's suffering.
2. agreement and support.

SYMPHONY: a long piece of music performed by an orchestra.

SYNDROME: a group of signs and symptoms that characterise a particular abnormality or condition.

SYNONYM: two or more words that have the same meaning.

SYNTHETIC: said of products made from artificial substances.

T

TECHNIQUE: the way of doing something applying special knowledge or skill.

TECHNOLOGY: the practical application of knowledge especially in a particular area; for example, electronics.

TENACIOUS: persistent; keeping to one's decision or opinion.

THEATRICAL: related to the presentation of plays in a theatre.

THIEVERY: the act of stealing committed by a thief.

THIGH: the part of the leg extending from the hip to the knee.

THREAD: a very thin fibre used in sewing for example.

THYROID: a small gland in the neck.

TONSILLITIS: the swelling of the tonsils.

TOUGH: 1. strong or firm in texture but flexible. 2. someone or something characterized by severity or difficulty.

TOURNAMENT: a series of games or contests that form a unit of competition.

TRACHEA: windpipe; the tube through which the air passes to and from the lungs.

TREASURE: something that is important or valuable that you keep in a safe place.

TRIUMPH: the joy of victory or success.

TRUSTWORTHY: to deserve or be worthy of trust.

TUNNEL: a horizontal passageway through or under an obstacle.

TYPHOON: a hurricane.

TYRANNIZE / TYRANNISE: the use of power in a cruel or unfair way.

U

UNACCOMPANIED: not accompanied, to go without someone as a companion or assistant.

UNBELIEVABLE: surprising or difficult to believe.

UNEMPLOYED: not employed, not working for a salary.

UNIQUE: 1. being the only one. 2. unusual.

UNLAWFUL: illegal.

UNMISTAKABLE/ UNMISTAKEABLE: unambiguous, clear.

UNNECESSARY: not necessary or needed.

UNSUCCESSFUL: not reaching the desired goal.

UNSUITABLE: not adequate or suitable.

UNWRAP: to remove the covering from something.

V

VACCINE: a preparation that contains an unarmful form of a virus administered to people or animals for disease prevention.

VACUUM: creating an empty or void space.

VEIL: a piece of cloth worn by women to cover the face or head.

VEINS: blood vessels that carr blood from all parts of the body to the heart.

VETERINARIAN: a vet; someone with a medical degree who takes care of animals.

VOLUNTEER: someone who does something for others without being paid.

W

WALLET: a small folding case for carrying paper money and credit cards that men usually use.

WALTZ: a ballroom dance with a repetitive movement of three steps OR the music to which we do this dance.

WARDROBE: a room or closet where we keep clothes.

WANDER: to move around in any direction without any particular destination.

WASTEFUL: given or marked by waste or what is superfluous or extra. Uneconomical.

WEAPON: something used to hurt or destroy.

WEIGHTLESS: having no weight or not being heavy at all.

WEIRD: unusual or very strange.

WHEELBARROW: a large open container with only one wheel at the front and two handles at the back especially used in the garden.

WHISKERS: 1. Hairs of the beard. 2. Long projecting hairs at the sides of the mouth of an animal.

WHISTLE: a wind instrument that you hold to your lips forcing air to pass through it in order to produce sound.

WIDESPREAD: covering a large area or happening to many people.

WIDTH: the distance across something from one side to another.

WILDERNESS: an area of land that has not been used to grow crops or had towns and roads built on it, especially because it is difficult to live in as a result of its extremely cold or hot weather.

WINDSCREEN: a protection against the wind in a vehicle.

WISDOM: the quality of being wise or the ability to use, knowledge, understanding, experience as well as common sense.

WIZARDRY: the arts and practices of a wizard.

WONDROUS: causing wonder or amazement.

WREATH: flowers or leaves arranged into a circular shape.

WRECKAGE: the state of an object being wrecked or severely damaged.

WRESTLE: 1. to combat against someone to throw him off balance.
2. to have a violent or determined fight with something.

WRINKLE: a crease in the skin especially when due to age, worry, or fatigue.

WRISTWATCH: a watch attached to a strap or bracelet that is worn around the wrist.

X

XYLOPHONE: a percussion instrument consisting of different length wooden bars arranged according to the musical scale and which you hit with two plastic or wooden sticks.

Y

YAWN: to open the mouth wide, esp. involuntarily, and breathe in deeply, as a result of fatigue, sleepiness, or boredom.

