

How to Get your Child Ready for the Bermuda Spelling Bee

If you look at the Bermuda Spelling Bee as a game, you can have a lot of fun getting your child ready for the challenge. It can also be rewarding and at the same time enjoyable **for the whole family**. Take a few steps to get your child ready for the Spelling Bee with minimal stress.

Useful Tips:

1. Look through the list of words in the Bermuda Spelling Bee booklet. Determine how many pages there are in the booklet and then break it up into different sections so that you can work on one section a day.

N.B The words for the Semi-Finals will be taken from the Easy and Intermediate lists. The words for the Finals will be selected from the Easy, Intermediate and Difficult lists. In both the Semi-Finals and Finals, there will be some unseen words taken out of the Oxford Dictionary.

2. Write out a list of words randomly from each section that you want to work on with your child. Have him/her take some time to read through the words.
3. Break long words into several syllables. This will make it easier to remember and recognize than trying to remember it as one big word.

- 4. Explain the meaning of the word to your child. Understanding the meaning of the word usually helps with the memory process because he/she will be able to better relate to it.**
- 5. Allow your child to study for a while and test him/her on the words.**
- 6. Turn the word list into a game. Start off with a word which he/she understands. Give your child two guesses at spelling the word. If he/she spells it right, he/she gains a point; if not, he/she loses a point. At the end of the game, reward him/her according to the number of points he/she earned. Repeat with more difficult words and continue with the game until he/she is ready to take a break.**
- 7. Keep the atmosphere relaxed and fun while learning. If you appear tense and stressed, you will put too much pressure on your child and he/she will not perform as well.**
- 8. Make sure that your child has a good night's sleep and a hearty breakfast before the Bermuda Spelling Bee challenge.**

*(adapted from: How to Get a Child Ready for a Spelling Bee
eHow.com http://www.ehow/how_2106652_get-child-ready-spelling)*