Grades 5–6 Spelling Bee Words

Round 1 (the easiest)

ancient — very, very old; from a time long ago

stomach — the part of your body where food goes after you swallow it

debt — money that you owe to someone

beautiful — very pretty or lovely to look at or hear

laughter — the sound people make when something is funny

thought — an idea that comes into your mind

delight — a feeling of great happiness

drought — a long time with little or no rain

salmon — a large fish with pink flesh that swims up rivers

almond — an oval nut with a light brown skin

crystal — a solid with a regular shape and flat sides, like a grain of salt or sugar

avocado — a pear-shaped fruit with green skin and a large seed

macaroni — short curved tubes of pasta

cucumber — a long green vegetable with a cool, watery inside

cinnamon — a sweet brown spice made from the bark of a tree

cookie — a small, flat, sweet baked treat

waffle — a crisp cake with a pattern of little squares, eaten at breakfast

curtain — a piece of cloth hung over a window or a stage

vanilla — a sweet flavor that comes from the bean of an orchid plant

balloon — a rubber bag that floats or stretches when filled with air

confetti — tiny bits of colored paper thrown at a celebration

cushion — a soft pillow for a chair or couch

broccoli — a green vegetable with thick stalks and tiny buds that look like little trees

kangaroo — an Australian animal that hops and carries its baby in a pouch

mattress — the thick, soft pad you lie on in a bed

flamingo — a tall pink bird that often stands on one leg

jaguar — a large spotted wild cat of Central and South America

celery — a vegetable with long, crunchy, pale green stalks

sausage — chopped meat stuffed into a long, thin casing

vinegar — a sour liquid used in cooking and salad dressing

message — words sent or left for someone

errand — a short trip to do a task, like buying something

blossom — a flower, especially on a fruit tree

patient — able to wait calmly without getting upset

pleasant — nice, friendly or enjoyable

visible — able to be seen

cabbage — a vegetable with thick leaves wrapped into a round head

passenger — a person riding in a car, bus, train, ship or plane

creature — any living animal

feature — an important or interesting part of something

noodle — a long, thin strip of pasta

bagel — a chewy bread roll shaped like a ring

poodle — a dog with thick, curly hair

museum — a building where people go to see art, history or science objects

balance — the ability to stay steady without falling

distance — how far it is from one place to another

silence — a time of no sound at all

chimney — a tall pipe that carries smoke up and out of a building

tissue — a thin, soft piece of paper used to wipe your nose

bracelet — a band or chain worn around the wrist

Grades 5–6 Spelling Bee Words

Round 2

necessary — needed; must be had or done

fascinate — to hold someone's attention with something very interesting

parallel — side by side and always the same distance apart, never meeting

conscience — the inner sense that tells you what is right and wrong

relieve — to make pain, worry or trouble less

absence — a time of being away or not present

budget — a plan for how to spend and save money

vehicle — something that carries people or things, like a car or bus

boomerang — a curved stick that flies back to the person who throws it

magazine — a thin book with stories and pictures that comes out often

geometry — the part of math about shapes, lines, angles and space

perimeter — the distance all the way around the edge of a shape

diameter — a straight line through the center of a circle, edge to edge

symmetry — when both halves of a shape match exactly, like a mirror image

quotient — the answer you get when you divide one number by another

microscope — a tool that makes very tiny things look much bigger

geyser — a hot spring that shoots water and steam into the air

prairie — a large area of flat land covered with tall grass

plateau — a large area of high, flat land

latitude — how far a place is north or south of the equator

longitude — how far a place is east or west, measured on a map or globe

equator — an imaginary line around the middle of the earth

species — a group of living things of the same kind that can have young together

porcupine — an animal covered with sharp quills

gazelle — a small, fast, graceful antelope

symphony — a long piece of music played by a large orchestra

melody — a tune; a series of musical notes that sound nice together

piccolo — a small flute that plays very high notes

sculpture — a piece of art carved or shaped from stone, wood, clay or metal

portrait — a painting, drawing or photo of a person

vocabulary — all the words a person knows and uses

paragraph — a group of sentences about one idea, starting on a new line

consonant — any letter of the alphabet that is not a vowel, like b or t

hyphen — a short line used to join two words or parts of a word

synonym — a word that means the same or nearly the same as another word

geography — the study of the earth's land, water, places and people

glacier — a huge, slow-moving river of ice

mineral — a natural solid, like quartz or salt, that is not a plant or animal

galaxy — a huge group of stars, gas and dust in space

universe — everything that exists, including all of space and the stars

eclipse — a time when the moon blocks the sun, or the earth's shadow covers the moon

horizon — the line where the earth or sea seems to meet the sky

nucleus — the center part of a cell that controls what it does

vertebrate — an animal that has a backbone

decision — a choice that you make after thinking

division — the math of splitting a number into equal groups

permission — when someone says you are allowed to do something

tradition — a custom or belief passed down over many years

generous — happy to share or give to others

precious — worth a lot of money, or loved very much

Grades 5–6 Spelling Bee Words

Round 3 (the hardest)

rhythm — a regular, repeated pattern of beats or sounds

opponent — a person or team you play against in a game or contest

chameleon — a lizard that can change the color of its skin

hippopotamus — a huge African animal with thick skin that spends much time in water

gourmet — of fine, high-quality food made with care

parachute — a large cloth that opens to help someone fall slowly through the air

brochure — a small booklet with pictures and information

fatigue — a feeling of being very tired

communicate — to share information, ideas or feelings with others

caramel — a chewy candy made from cooked sugar, butter and milk

mozzarella — a soft white cheese that melts well on pizza

balcony — a platform with a railing on the outside of a building

semester — one half of a school year

tsunami — a giant ocean wave caused by an earthquake under the sea

mammoth — a huge, hairy kind of elephant that lived long ago

nuisance — a person or thing that is annoying

disguise — clothes or makeup worn to hide who you are

circuit — a path that electricity flows around

kindergarten — the school year before first grade

frontier — the far edge of settled land, where few people live

occur — to happen

accompany — to go along with someone

possess — to have or own something

exhibit — a display of objects for people to look at

millionaire — a person who has a million dollars or more

molecule — the smallest bit of a substance, made of atoms joined together

metaphor — a phrase that describes something as if it were something else

punctuation — marks like periods, commas and question marks used in writing

atmosphere — the layer of air that surrounds the earth

sediment — sand, mud and tiny bits of rock that settle at the bottom of water

erosion — the slow wearing away of rock or soil by wind, water or ice

evaporate — to change from a liquid into a gas

souvenir — something you keep to remember a place or event

consequence — something that happens because of something else

abundance — a very large amount of something

convenience — something that makes life easier or saves time

courteous — polite and kind to others

tremendous — very large or great

appreciate — to be thankful for something

accurate — correct and without mistakes

dissolve — to mix into a liquid until it can no longer be seen

territory — an area of land that belongs to or is used by someone

immense — extremely large

attitude — the way you think or feel about something

descend — to move down from a higher place

crescent — a curved shape like a thin slice of the moon

genuine — real and true, not fake

ingredient — one of the foods that go into a recipe

emphasis — special attention or importance given to something

anniversary — a day that marks the date something happened in an earlier year