Grades 7-8 Spelling Bee Words

Round 1 (the easiest)

rehearsal — a practice run of a play, concert or show before the real performance

exaggerate — to make something sound bigger, better or worse than it really is

camouflage — colors or patterns that help an animal or thing blend into its surroundings

safari — a trip to see or photograph wild animals in their natural home

definitely — without any doubt; for sure

condor — a very large vulture of the mountains of the Americas with huge wings

vacuum — a space with no air or other matter in it

weird — very strange or unusual

haiku — a short poem of three lines with five, seven and five syllables

hygiene — habits that keep you and your things clean and healthy, like washing your hands

kiosk — a small booth or stand where things are sold or information is given

bureau — an office or agency that handles a certain kind of work

marshmallow — a soft, spongy white candy often toasted over a campfire

business — a company or shop that sells goods or services

eighth — coming next after the seventh in order

casserole — a dish of food baked slowly in a deep pan

twelfth — coming next after the eleventh in order

caravan — a group of travelers or vehicles moving together in a line

iguana — a large lizard with a row of spines down its back

shepherd — a person who looks after a flock of sheep

spectator — a person who watches an event, such as a game or show

satellite — a machine sent into space to circle the earth and send back information

caffeine — a substance in coffee, tea and some sodas that keeps people awake

xylophone — a musical instrument of wooden bars struck with small hammers

acrobat — a performer who does flips, balancing and other daring tricks

sieve — a kitchen tool with a mesh bottom used to separate fine bits from larger ones

grammar — the rules for how words are put together in a language

trampoline — a strong sheet of fabric held by springs to a frame, used for bouncing

gymnasium — a large room or building for sports and exercise

helicopter — an aircraft lifted by large spinning blades on top

ballerina — a woman or girl who dances ballet

soprano — a singer with the highest singing voice

wasabi — a very hot green paste made from a root, often eaten with sushi

nebula — a giant cloud of gas and dust in outer space

oasis — a green place in a desert where there is water

mirage — something that seems to be there but is not, caused by hot air bending light

tundra — a cold, treeless land in the far north where the ground stays frozen

audible — loud enough to be heard

integer — a whole number, or its negative, with no fraction or decimal part

athlete — a person who is trained in a sport or physical activity

stadium — a large sports field surrounded by rows of seats

fiesta — a lively party or festival with music, food and dancing

oregano — a fragrant herb with small leaves used to season food

guacamole — a thick dip made of mashed avocado, often with lime, onion and tomato

pajamas — loose, comfortable clothes worn to bed

kayak — a narrow, light boat moved with a paddle that has a blade at each end

ravioli — small square pockets of pasta filled with cheese or meat

strudel — a pastry made of thin layers of dough rolled around a fruit filling

landscape — the view of a stretch of land, such as hills, fields and trees

cocoon — a silky case that some insects spin around themselves while they change

Grades 7-8 Spelling Bee Words

Round 2

millennium — a period of one thousand years

silhouette — the dark outline of someone or something seen against a light

accommodate — to have enough room for; to hold

boulevard — a wide city street, often lined with trees

excursion — a short trip taken for fun or to learn something

bilingual — able to speak two languages well

occasion — a special event or celebration

trapezoid — a shape with four sides, only two of which are parallel

rhombus — a flat shape with four equal sides, often looking like a tilted square

acquire — to get or gain something

apparent — easy to see or understand; clear

argument — a reason or set of reasons given to support an idea

jewelry — rings, necklaces, bracelets and other decorations people wear

circumference — the distance around the outside of a circle

maintenance — the work of keeping something in good condition

numerator — the number above the line in a fraction

pronunciation — the way a word is said out loud

persuade — to get someone to do or believe something by giving good reasons

playwright — a person who writes plays for the stage

possession — something that a person owns

relevant — closely connected to the subject being discussed

ridiculous — so silly that it makes people laugh

secretary — a person whose job is to keep records, write letters and plan meetings

ecology — the study of how living things relate to each other and their surroundings

constellation — a group of stars that forms a shape or picture in the night sky

pomegranate — a round red fruit filled with many juicy seeds

etiquette — the rules of polite behavior

cauliflower — a vegetable with a large, firm white head

graffiti — writing or drawings scribbled or painted on a wall in a public place

turquoise — a blue-green stone often set in silver rings and necklaces

ambiguous — able to be understood in more than one way

anonymous — made or done by someone whose name is not known

legible — clear enough to be read easily

feasible — possible to do; able to be done

tangible — able to be touched or clearly seen; real

vulnerable — easily hurt or damaged; open to harm

nutritious — full of the things your body needs to grow and stay healthy

hilarious — extremely funny

efficient — working well without wasting time or energy

exhilarate — to make someone feel very happy and excited

artichoke — a vegetable with thick green leaves shaped like scales around a soft center

asparagus — a green vegetable with long, thin spears

threshold — the strip of wood or stone at the bottom of a doorway

pavilion — an open building in a park used for picnics, shows or shelter

rutabaga — a large yellow root vegetable related to the turnip

tambourine — a small hand drum with metal disks around the rim that jingle when it is shaken

mediocre — only fair or average; not very good

boutique — a small shop that sells stylish clothes or gifts

cuisine — a style of cooking from a certain place

amateur — a person who does something for fun rather than as a job

Grades 7-8 Spelling Bee Words

Round 3 (the hardest)

conscientious — careful to do your work well and do what is right

mischievous — playful in a way that causes small trouble

acquaintance — a person you know a little but who is not a close friend

quadrilateral — a flat shape with four straight sides

itinerary — a plan of a trip that lists places and times

questionnaire — a written set of questions used to gather information

obsolete — no longer used because something newer has replaced it

collaborate — to work together with others on a project

preposterous — so silly or unlikely that it makes no sense

psychology — the study of the mind and how people think and behave

proficient — very good at doing something because of practice

susceptible — easily affected or influenced by something

auxiliary — giving extra help or support

kaleidoscope — a tube with mirrors and colored bits that make changing patterns as you turn it

labyrinth — a confusing set of paths in which it is easy to get lost; a maze

paraphernalia — all the equipment and small items used for a hobby or activity

succinct — said clearly in only a few words

simultaneous — happening at exactly the same time

spontaneous — done suddenly without planning

miscellaneous — made up of many different kinds of things

unanimous — agreed on by everyone in a group

meticulous — very careful about small details

tenacious — holding on firmly; not giving up easily

gregarious — enjoying the company of others; very sociable

sophisticated — complex and advanced in design or thinking

phenomenon — a fact or event in nature that can be observed

commemorate — to do something special to remember an important person or event

apparatus — a set of tools or equipment used for a special purpose

accumulate — to gather or pile up over time

alliteration — the repeating of the same first sound in words close together

illuminate — to light up something

protagonist — the main character in a story, play or movie

perseverance — the habit of keeping on trying even when things are hard

caricature — a funny drawing that exaggerates a person's features

reservoir — a lake, often made by people, where water is stored for a town

metamorphosis — a complete change of form, as when a tadpole becomes a frog

extraordinary — far beyond what is usual or expected; amazing

delicatessen — a shop that sells ready-to-eat foods like cheeses, salads and sliced meats

intermittent — stopping and starting again from time to time

picturesque — pretty enough to be in a painting

aqueduct — a long channel or bridge built to carry water over a distance

asteroid — a rocky object, smaller than a planet, that travels around the sun

veterinarian — a doctor who treats animals

inevitable — sure to happen; impossible to avoid

plausible — seeming likely to be true or reasonable

benevolent — kind and wanting to help or do good for others

exquisite — extremely beautiful and delicate

accelerate — to go faster; to speed up

resilient — able to recover quickly after a difficulty

vivacious — lively, cheerful and full of energy