



Scripps National Spelling Bee

Vocabulary List for Fourth Graders

2018-2019

1. **dense** (*adjective*) crowded very close together.
2. **groan** (*noun*) a deep, sudden, unintentional sound that usually indicates pain, grief, or sometimes disapproval or annoyance.
3. **siren** (*noun*) an apparatus often electrically operated for producing a piercing warning sound of musical tones.
4. **angles** (*plural noun*) the directions from which someone or something is viewed, considered or approached.
5. **fend** (*verb*) to look out for oneself : manage.
6. **rubbish** (*noun*) assorted useless, valueless waste or rejected matter : trash.
7. **tuneful** (*adjective*) having a musical sound : melodious.
8. **artistic** (*adjective*) characterized by taste and judgment or by art and skill.
9. **squishy** (*adjective*) being soft, yielding and damp.
10. **clumsy** (*adjective*) not having ease in using the hands, skill, nimbleness or grace, such as in the use of the body or limbs or in the performance of an action.
11. **kibble** (*noun*) coarsely ground dried food products or grain.
12. **cues** (*plural noun*) signals (such as words or bits of stage business) to a performer to begin a specific speech or action.
13. **boasted** (*verb*) said or told something intended to give others a high opinion of yourself : bragged.
14. **prayer** (*noun*) an address (such as a petition or confession) to God or a god in word or thought.
15. **tireless** (*adjective*) seemingly not able to become weary or have your strength decrease or fail.
16. **factory** (*noun*) a building or collection of buildings with facilities (such as machines) for making goods often from raw materials.
17. **borrowed** (*verb*) received something (such as a book) from a library to use outside the library for a period of time.
18. **shavings** (*plural noun*) thin strips of wood pared off by a tool for smoothing or shaping wood.
19. **poodles** (*plural noun*) dogs of an old European breed of active, intelligent dogs that have a curly, dense, solid-colored coat and are grouped into standard, miniature and toy sizes.
20. **gravity** (*noun*) the tendency or state of being drawn to the mass of something in the sky (such as the earth, the moon or a planet) for bodies at or near its surface.
21. **abnormal** (*adjective*) differing from the typical.



This list includes 50 challenging fourth grade words and, to extend learning, 50 challenging fifth grade words. If you learn the spellings and meanings of these 100 words, you will be well prepared for a fourth grade classroom bee. If you would like to be well prepared for a school spelling bee, ask your teacher for the 450-word School Spelling Bee Study List.

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|-----|-------------------|----------------------|---|
| 22. | sneakers | <i>(plural noun)</i> | shoes usually of canvas with flexible rubber soles worn especially for sports or hiking. |
| 23. | crackle | <i>(verb)</i> | to make small, sharp, sudden noises repeatedly. |
| 24. | inspire | <i>(verb)</i> | to encourage or motivate. |
| 25. | pleats | <i>(plural noun)</i> | fold in cloth made by doubling material over on itself and that is stitched, attached or held along one side. |
| 26. | shivery | <i>(adjective)</i> | frigid, cold. |
| 27. | briefing | <i>(noun)</i> | the process of being given usually essential information typically in little time and without unnecessary details. |
| 28. | obtain | <i>(verb)</i> | to gain possession or disposal of usually by some planned action or method. |
| 29. | portray | <i>(verb)</i> | to represent by drawing, painting or cutting something into the surface of a material. |
| 30. | squeeze | <i>(verb)</i> | to exert pressure especially on opposite sides or parts of : press together closely or tightly. |
| 31. | rumbling | <i>(verb)</i> | making a low, heavy rolling sound. |
| 32. | gangplank | <i>(noun)</i> | a long, narrow, movable platform or bridge used to get on or off a ship (as from a wharf). |
| 33. | scratched | <i>(verb)</i> | scraped or rubbed lightly with something pointed or rough in order to relieve itching. |
| 34. | distorted | <i>(verb)</i> | twisted out of a natural, normal or original shape or condition. |
| 35. | cardboard | <i>(noun)</i> | a stiff, thick kind of paper that sometimes has a coating and that can be used to make signs or for printed material. |
| 36. | interviews | <i>(verb)</i> | questions or talks with especially in order to gain information or learn personal qualities. |
| 37. | guilty | <i>(adjective)</i> | justly chargeable with or responsible for a fault or crime. |
| 38. | lunar | <i>(adjective)</i> | of, taking place on or relating to the moon. |
| 39. | custard | <i>(noun)</i> | a sweetened mixture of milk and eggs that is baked, boiled or frozen. |
| 40. | shriek | <i>(noun)</i> | a shrill, usually wild or unintentional cry (as of sudden or extreme terror or pain or of violent laughter). |
| 41. | ghost | <i>(noun)</i> | a supernatural appearance : apparition. |
| 42. | mission | <i>(noun)</i> | a specific task with which a person or group is charged. |
| 43. | tempting | <i>(adjective)</i> | alluring, enticing. |
| 44. | majestic | <i>(adjective)</i> | having, exhibiting, or marked by magnificent or commanding power, effect, or appearance : regal. |
| 45. | solution | <i>(noun)</i> | an answer to or a means of answering a problem : an explanation. |



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| 46. | signals | <i>(plural noun)</i> | sounds or gestures made to give warning or command. |
| 47. | eliminate | <i>(verb)</i> | to get rid of. |
| 48. | universe | <i>(noun)</i> | the entire celestial cosmos. |
| 49. | locusts | <i>(plural noun)</i> | migratory grasshoppers that often travel in vast swarms and strip the areas they travel through of all vegetation. |
| 50. | guidance | <i>(noun)</i> | advice in choosing courses, preparing for a line of work or further education, or coping with personal problems given to students by a teacher or a professional counselor. |
| 51. | pored | <i>(verb)</i> | devoted oneself to attentive reading. |
| 52. | mulch | <i>(noun)</i> | a protective covering spread on the ground to reduce evaporation, maintain even soil temperature, prevent erosion, control weeds or enrich the soil. |
| 53. | coiled | <i>(verb)</i> | wound (something) into rings laid within or on top of one another or wound spirally about an object. |
| 54. | glands | <i>(plural noun)</i> | cells or groups of cells that selectively remove materials from the blood, modify them, and send them back out so the body can further use them or eliminate them. |
| 55. | axis | <i>(noun)</i> | a straight line a body or a three-dimensional figure rotates about or may be supposed to rotate. |
| 56. | radish | <i>(noun)</i> | the pungent, fleshy root of a plant that is typically eaten raw. |
| 57. | lure | <i>(verb)</i> | to attract : entice. |
| 58. | griddle | <i>(noun)</i> | a flat surface that is used to cook food using dry heat. |
| 59. | jerkily | <i>(adverb)</i> | in a manner marked by jolting. |
| 60. | stylish | <i>(adjective)</i> | conforming to an accepted standard and especially to one of current fashion. |
| 61. | knelt | <i>(verb)</i> | fell or rested on the knees. |
| 62. | frayed | <i>(verb)</i> | worn or worn off by or as if by rubbing. |
| 63. | sprouted | <i>(verb)</i> | grew, sprung up or came forth as a shoot from a plant. |
| 64. | relics | <i>(plural noun)</i> | souvenirs, mementos. |
| 65. | discomfort | <i>(noun)</i> | mental or physical uneasiness that isn't as intense or concentrated in one area as pain. |
| 66. | creatures | <i>(plural noun)</i> | lower animals; especially : farm animals. |
| 67. | dwelling | <i>(noun)</i> | a building or construction used as a home. |
| 68. | rickety | <i>(adjective)</i> | weak in the joints : tottering. |
| 69. | infested | <i>(verb)</i> | overrun. |
| 70. | despair | <i>(noun)</i> | total loss of hope. |
| 71. | thirst | <i>(noun)</i> | a sensation of dryness in the mouth and throat associated with a desire for liquids. |



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72.	youthful	<i>(adjective)</i>	having the lively character or freshness of a young person : vigorous.
73.	shrewd	<i>(adjective)</i>	marked by cleverness or discernment : astute.
74.	molten	<i>(adjective)</i>	fused or liquefied by heat : melted.
75.	stalk	<i>(noun)</i>	the main stem of an herbaceous plant often with its dependent parts (such as leaves, twigs, fruit).
76.	aromas	<i>(plural noun)</i>	distinctive pleasing odors : fragrances.
77.	champion	<i>(noun)</i>	someone whose superiority is formally acknowledged especially after a test, contest or series of tests or contests.
78.	salesclerk	<i>(noun)</i>	a person employed to sell goods or services in a store.
79.	dollop or dallop	<i>(noun)</i>	a lump or blob of something semiliquid or mushy.
80.	gentlemen	<i>(plural noun)</i>	men whose conduct conforms to a certain standard of proper or correct behavior.
81.	captivity	<i>(noun)</i>	the state of being kept caged or fenced in.
82.	blathering	<i>(noun)</i>	foolish or nonsensical talk or writing.
83.	Venus	<i>(noun)</i>	the planet second in order from the sun.
84.	unwavering	<i>(adjective)</i>	characterized by steadiness : fixed.
85.	spectators	<i>(plural noun)</i>	people watching an exhibition (such as a sports event).
86.	construction	<i>(noun)</i>	the act of putting parts together to form a complete integrated object : fabrication.
87.	swindle	<i>(verb)</i>	to deprive of money or property by an instance or act of trickery or deceit.
88.	infinity	<i>(noun)</i>	an indefinitely great number or amount.
89.	mirror	<i>(noun)</i>	a polished or smooth substance that forms images by the reflection of light and that is usually made of glass with a reflective backing.
90.	resemble	<i>(verb)</i>	to be like or similar to.
91.	citizen	<i>(noun)</i>	a native or naturalized person who owes allegiance to a government and is entitled to protection and rights.
92.	pronounce	<i>(verb)</i>	to declare solemnly.
93.	taut	<i>(adjective)</i>	tightly drawn : tensely stretched.
94.	monopoly	<i>(noun)</i>	ownership that allows for the total control of the means of production or a market, usually for controlling prices.
95.	Florence	<i>(geographical entry)</i>	a small administrative district in central Italy that is the capital of the region of Tuscany.
96.	leopard	<i>(noun)</i>	a large, strong cat of southern Asia and Africa that is usually light orangish brown with black spots, spends time in trees, and often lies in ambush for its prey — called also “panther.”
97.	comrades	<i>(plural noun)</i>	very close friends : companions.



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| 98. | <i>swiveled or swivelled</i> | <i>(verb)</i> | swung or turned on or as if on a part that pivots freely on or as if on a headed bolt or pin. |
| 99. | <i>Borneo</i> | <i>(geographical entry)</i> | an island of the Malay Archipelago southwest of the Philippines that is divided between Brunei, Malaysia and Indonesia. |
| 100. | <i>scaffolding</i> | <i>(noun)</i> | a system of temporary or movable platforms that workers use to sit or stand on when working above the ground. |