



California State Elementary SPELLING BEE

Study Suggestions

Study ideas to prepare for the competition:

Students participating in the state spelling competition should become familiar with a broad range of words. Words used in the competition are chosen randomly from sources deemed appropriate by the Spell Master and Judges. *Webster's Third New International Dictionary Unabridged* (copyright 2002) is the official competition dictionary.

No word study list is provided, but students may find the following resources helpful:

- Word glossaries from English-language arts, science, math, and social science books
- School word study lists and teacher-provided word lists
- General fiction and non-fiction books
- Newspapers, magazines, and other media
- Word games (scrabble, anagrams, crosswords)
- Print and online dictionaries

In addition, students may want to learn and study:

- Word patterns (decide, inside, reside)
- Homonyms (beat, beet ... guise, guys)
- Rhyming words
- Root words, prefixes, and suffixes
- Greek, Latin and Anglo-Saxon roots and affixes
- Word definitions
- Word usage, including how usage may provide spelling hints