

Rye Free Reading Room Spelling Bee FAQ

Q. When and Where is the Spelling Bee?

A. The Spelling Bee will be held at the Rye Free Reading Room on Monday, November 11th, following the conclusion of the Veteran's Day Ceremony, approximately 11:00 am. The event will be held in the library meeting room.

Q. Who is eligible to participate?

A. Any student in grades 6 to 12 who lives or goes to school in Rye is eligible to participate. Students must have a Rye Free Reading Room library card by November 11th, 2019. Library cards are available online at www.ryelibrary.org/borrowing/get-a-card/.

Q. Is registration required?

A. Yes, students must sign up in advance at www.ryelibrary.org/spellingbee in order to participate. Registration will close on Saturday, November 9th at 11:59 pm.

Q. What are the prizes?

A. The high school spelling bee winner will receive a \$2,500 scholarship for books and materials. The middle school spelling bee winner will receive a \$500 scholarship for books and materials. Funds will be dispersed at the Rye Free Reading Room Annual Meeting in February 2019. Special thanks to Carpet Trends and an anonymous donor for their support of the Spelling Bee.

Q. How can I prepare?

A. The best way to prepare is to read! Visit the library and ask the teen librarian for recommended titles, or download books from the library's digital collection at www.ryelibrary.org/services/e-books/. You may also want to practice spelling out loud in front of friends and family. The library will be using the online Merriam-Webster <http://unabridged.merriam-webster.com/unabridged/>. Students can access the Merriam-Webster Collegiate Dictionary online using their library card at https://galesupport.com/novelGeo/novelGeoLink.php?loc=nysl_me_rfrr&db=EBacademisc

The Spelling Bee is designed to be a celebration of the community and academics and should be a fun experience for parents and students to practice spelling together.

Q. How is the spelling bee formatted?

A. Students will compete in divisions by school level – middle school students and high school students. Spellers must correctly spell their word in order to continue in the round. The winner must correctly spell two more words than the runner(s)-up. All words will come from the Merriam-Webster unabridged online dictionary. Words and definitions are supplied by the spelling bee pronouncers. Decisions on rules, pronunciations, and appeals are determined by the judges.