

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Spelling Bee

By B.J. Lee



Do you know a Spelling Bee?  
I know one well, and vow that she  
can spell the names of all the flowers



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And with "Dahlia" she did fine.  
Then she missed both "Thigh" and "Thumb,"  
but quickly spelled "Chrysanthemum."

So I found out that Spelling Bees  
cannot spell all words with ease.  
For flower names, they spell each one,  
but other words? They know none.

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- Which choice describes the main idea of the poem?
  - A person enters a spelling bee and only spells flower words correctly.
  - A person enters a spelling bee. She misspells easy words, but correctly spells difficult words.



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- What is the genre of this poem?
  - historical fiction
  - science fiction
  - realistic fiction
  - fantasy
- Which word would the Spelling Bee most likely misspell?
  - daffodil
  - violet
  - petal
  - buttercup

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**Part 1:** Re-read the poem, "The Spelling Bee." As you read, use a highlighter or yellow crayon to highlight each of the vocabulary words from the box.

vow                      nectar                      devour



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- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ devour
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ petunia
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_ thigh
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_ ease
- c. part of your leg between your hip and knee
- d. completed without difficulty; simple
- e. to eat quickly
- f. popular garden flower

**Part 3:** Write a complete sentence that correctly uses two of the vocabulary words above. Be sure your sentence is at least 8 words long.

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## Related Activities

**Activity 1:** On a sheet of lined paper, make a list of 10 popular species of garden flowers. Choose flowers that are not mentioned in the poem, or on the



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**Activity 3:** Imagine you were allowed to plant flowers in a 10-foot by 20-foot rectangular garden. Use grid paper to draw a map of your garden. Draw the flowers and label each species. Also draw and label other things in your garden, such as a bench, a birdbath, or a fence. Then, write a descriptive paragraph titled, "My Garden." Be sure your paragraph has at least 7 complete sentences. Include vivid, descriptive words in your writing.

**Activity 4:** Research bumble bees. Use books from the library, websites, or encyclopedias to find information. Your research report should have five paragraphs:

1. Introduction paragraph
2. Anatomy of a Bumble Bee
3. Habitat of a Bumble Bee
4. Life Cycle of a Bumble Bee
5. Interesting Facts About Bumble Bees



## ANSWER KEY

# The Spelling Bee



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c. realistic fiction

**d. fantasy**

4. Which word would the Spelling Bee most likely misspell?

a. daffodil

b. violet

**c. petal**

d. buttercup

## ANSWER KEY

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above. Be sure your sentence is at least 8 words long.

**Answers will vary.**

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