



# Laura Days Spelling Bee Guidelines

**REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED UNTIL EACH CATEGORY IS FILLED.  
- LIMIT 15 COMPETITORS IN EACH CATEGORY -**

**COMPETITORS WILL BE GROUPED IN THREE AGE CATEGORIES:**

First/Second Grade • Third/Fourth Grade • Fifth/Sixth Grade

**GRADE LEVELS ARE THOSE AT THE START OF THIS SCHOOL YEAR**

**DATE & TIME OF SPELLING BEE ARE INDICATED ON THE WEBSITE.  
ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BE AT THE MAIN STAGE 15 MINUTES  
PRIOR TO THE START OF THE CONTEST.**

## **PROCEDURES:**

- We will begin with the youngest category and invite them to the stage to be seated.
- The pronouncer introduces the contest and starts things off by explaining the rules to the contestants
- The first contestant is called and the pronouncer announces the word to be spelled. The pronouncer speaks slowly and clearly, without distorting the normal pronunciation of the word. The word is used in a sentence and then repeated
- The speller listens carefully to the pronouncer, and if necessary, asks for the word to be repeated.
- When the speller is sure they understand the word, they pronounce it, spell it, and then say the word again. They must say it loudly enough for the judge to hear (Judge is seated in the first row of the audience).
- The judge determines whether or not the word was spelled correctly.
- If the correct spelling was given, the speller remains in the contest.
- If the spelling was incorrect, that speller is eliminated from the contest. The pronouncer then gives the correct spelling of the word.
- The speller leaves the stage.
- The pronouncer then reads a new word to the next contestant.
- When there are only two spellers left, if one contestant misspells a word, the other player must spell that word correctly to win. If they cannot, another word is given to the first player and they spell it. This process repeats until one contestant misspells and the other contestant spells correctly.

Each Spelling Bee participant will receive a participation ribbon.

First and Second Place winners in each age group will receive ribbons and a \$10 gift certificate to the Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum.

The Spelling Bee rules will be reviewed on stage prior to the competition.