

## Arabic Spelling Bee Rules

1. In competition, after the pronouncer gives the speller a word, the speller will be encouraged to pronounce the word before spelling it and after spelling it. The judge may not disqualify a speller for failing to pronounce the word either before or after spelling it. But the judges will know that the speller is done if he or she pronounces the word after spelling it and the pronouncer will be assured that the speller has heard the word correctly if he or she pronounces it before beginning to spell it.
2. The speller may ask the pronouncer to say the word again, define it, and/or use it in a sentence. The pronouncer shall grant all such requests until the judges agree that the word has been made reasonably clear to the contestant.
3. Having started to spell a word, a speller may stop and start over, retracing the spelling from the beginning, but in retracing there can be NO change of letters or their sequence from those first pronounced. If letters or their sequence is changed in the respelling, the speller will be eliminated. In other words, a speller can't correct himself, even while it is still his or her turn.
4. Here are some special letters the children need to be aware of.

شِئَاء	sheen ta alif hamza ala satter (KG and up)  شين - تا - الف - همزة على سطر
وَسَائِل	waw - seen – alif- hamza ala an nabira (or Hamzah ala Kursie) lam (1 <sup>st</sup> and up)  واو - سين - الف - همزة على نبرة (او همزة على كرسي)
عَلَى	ain- lam - alif maqsoora (KG and up)  عين - لام - الف مقصورة
رَأْس	ra'a- hamzat Kati3 –seen (Third and up)  را - همزة قطع - سين
أَدَم	Alif Mad or Alif Madiyah – dal – meem (1 <sup>st</sup> and up)  الف مد ( او الف مديّة ) - دال - ميم

أحمد	Hamzat Katie _ ha'a – Meem – Dal (3 <sup>rd</sup> and up) همزة قطع – حا – ميم – دال
هذه هؤلاء هذا ذلك اللهم	These are the only five words in the packet that has (Alif Sagheera) even if it's not written, but it's pronounced. So, the students need to spell it. (3 <sup>rd</sup> and up)  Example هذه ها- الف صغيرة او ( الف ضمنية او الف خنجرية) - ذال - ها Ha- Alif Sagheera -Thal — Ha'a
الولد	Hamzah wasil ( or Hamzaha or Alif ) – lam – waw- lam – dal (3 <sup>rd</sup> and up)  همزة وصل او همزة او الف – واو – لام – دال
بيضة	Baa- ya'a – Da'd- Taa Marbotah (KG and up)  با – يا – ضاد – تا مربوطة
بينات	Baa- Yaa- Noon- alif – Ta'a Maftooha (2 <sup>nd</sup> and up) با – يا – نون – الف – تاء مفتوحة

5. The contest shall be conducted in rounds. If none of the spellers remaining in the spelling bee at the start of a round spells a word correctly during that round, all remain in the competition and a new round begins.
6. If only one speller spells correctly in a round, a new one-word round begins and the speller is given an opportunity to spell the next word on the list (anticipated winning word). If the speller succeeds in correctly spelling the anticipated winning word in this one-word round, the speller is declared the champion.
7. If a speller misspells the anticipated winning word in a one-word round, a new round begins with all the spellers who spelled (correctly and incorrectly) in the previous round. These spellers spell in their original order.
8. Protests may be filed by anyone wishing to reinstate a speller into the contest but will not be heard from any individual seeking to dislodge another speller from the competition. Deadline for filing a protest is before the speller affected would have received his/her word had he/she stayed in the contest. NO PROTEST will be

entertained after that word has been given to another speller. Protests should be verbally made to a designated person immediately or upon completion of a round. It is especially important to speak up right away when there are only two or three spellers left.

9. Judges are in complete control of the competition. Their decisions are final.
10. This is the most important rule of all. Please have fun and relax, whether you're a participant or a spectator.