

SCRIPPS

NATIONAL SPELLING BEE 

1st Black American Bee Champion

Zaila Avant-garde

How the Bee Shaped Me

An Interview with Vanya Shivashankar

“inspires students’ love of reading”

*Courtney Sutton
3rd grade teacher*

New! A-Z to Simplify Your Bee

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HOW TO GET BUZZING

A GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS AND SCHOOLS



Bonus
Shareable
Content
Inside

New Orleans
of The Links
Louisiana

JOURNEY

of the BEE

**Grades 1
Through 8**

**Millions of
Students**

**Diverse
schools &
spellers of all
backgrounds**



**In classrooms
across America**

**Developing
resilience &
growth
mindset in our
future leaders**



**Regional
champions
compete near
Washington,
D.C.**



**Ready to get
buzzing?
Click here to
enroll your
school today!**

**Scripps
National
Spelling Bee
Finals live on
broadcast TV**



Why Join The Bee?

**The Bee
inspires a love
of learning in
your students.**

Your students will...

Develop
vocabulary
and language
skills.

Practice
poise under
pressure.

Strengthen
life skills
including
work ethic.

Build
confidence
and have
fun!



HOW THE BEE SHAPED ME

An Interview with Vanya Shivashankar, 2015 Champion

Q: How has the Bee impacted your life?

A: My 10-year spelling competition journey has really made an everlasting impact on my life and I've made so many amazing friends and memories along the way. It's really shaped who I am today, and where my interests lie. Competing in the Bee has fostered my curiosity for the world, helped me discover a passion for language and etymology and given me a platform to express myself.

Q: What if someone is hesitant to sign up?

A: I would say why not? It's a great way to make incredible memories, lifelong friends, and develop crucial life skills. Success in the Bee is not when you win, success is when you know you tried your best, had fun, and learned something new. Have fun with every moment, every word, and every opportunity. It's yours for the taking.

Q: What does your life look like post-Bee?

A: Currently, I'm a rising Junior at Yale University, studying cognitive science and global health and on the track to medical studies. So I've been having a lot of fun with that. My success in the Bee has very much paved the path for me to be able to put my all into where I'm at now. I still love being involved with Scripps and the spelling bees.



Enroll today at spellingbee.com!

A to Z

OF JOINING THE BEE!

Your how-to guide to get your school buzzing



A.

Choose to participate with in-person, online and hybrid options. Enrollment is open from August 20th to December 31st and costs \$175 per school.

School Bee Coordinators access study materials and word lists through an online portal of resources and distribute these materials to other educators and students at their schools.

Throughout the fall, educators administer classroom and school spelling bees using resources provided as part of spelling bee enrollment. Schools celebrate school champions that will be heading off to the next round of the Bee.

During the winter, school champions compete in district, county and national qualifier spelling bees sponsored by regional partner organizations across the country.

Z.

In May, spellers arrive in the Washington, D.C., area to take part in the Bee Week experience, and a national Champion is declared during a nationally televised live broadcast.

Regional champions study for the national finals and register for Bee Week, a week-long celebration of academic achievement filled with events and special programming.

**Ready to get Buzzing?
Enroll your school today!**

What do Olympians and honeybees have in common?

Both work relentlessly to achieve their goals! Like Olympians, honeybees are hyper-focused on the job at hand to keep their hive buzzing.



You Are The Key To The Bee

Top Tools for our VIPS – our Educators!

Scripps National Spelling Bee provides powerful tools for educators and schools to execute a successful and memorable Bee.

Thank You,
Educators!

2021 Scripps
Spelling Bee Teacher of the Year



Kevin Shuneson
Applevue Elementary School
Sparta, Michigan

Teacher's Beehive

Crafted with teachers in mind, this newsletter contains information regarding the Scripps National Spelling Bee along with educational content from our partners like Merriam-Webster and the News Literacy Project.



“

The Bee supports my goal to inspire students' love of reading. There might be a child who doesn't want to pick up a book, but they'll dig into a list of words and a dictionary to figure out what they really mean.

”

- Courtney Sutton, 3rd grade teacher

Check out the rest of our Educator Resources

The Bee's Bookshelf: the official book club of the Bee.

Classroom Pronouncer Guide: for running a classroom-level spelling bee.

Online Testing Platform: a tool for conducting a spelling bee via an online test.

Great Words, Great Works: a reading list.

Words of the Champions: a study list.



Enroll today at spellingbee.com!

Meet Zaila Avant-garde

Did you know?
She's a Speller
and an Athlete

Zaila's *Spellebrity* Bio

From
Harvey, LA

Won the Bee
in 2021 at age
14

Last name is a
tribute to jazz
musician John
Coltrane

First Black
American
winner in the
Bee's 96-year
history

Where is Zaila now?

- Received 5 full-ride scholarship offers from Tulane University, University of Maryland, Louisiana State University, Southern University and Sewanee.
- Tweeted by President Joe Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris, NASA, Oprah and more!
- Featured on Jimmy Kimmel Live! in a joint interview with Bill Murray.
- Invited by Anthony Mackie to the ESPY Awards where she walked the red carpet and met track star Sha'Carri Richardson.

Zaila holds three Guinness World Records for basketball!

- Most bounce juggles in one minute with four basketballs.
- Most basketball bounces in 30 seconds with four basketballs.
- Most basketballs dribbled at once (tie).



Enroll today at spellingbee.com!

Making history with Zaila



Ready to get
Buzzing?
Enroll your
school today!

"a dream come true."

Zaila Avant-garde upon winning
the Scripps National Spelling Bee



Buzz from the Bee

Did you know?

In the Bee's second year, we declared our first female winner, Pauline Bell, who won by correctly spelling the color *cerise*. We've had 52 female champions and 54 male champions in our history.



The Youngest Spellebrity

In 2017, at just six years old, Edith Fuller became the youngest speller to secure a spot in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. To qualify, she outspelled 52 other children at the regional Bee, spelling such challenging words as *jnana*, *sarsaparilla* and *Baedeker*.



The Bee That Started It All

Nine spellers competed in the first Bee, held in Washington, D.C., in 1925. Frank Neuhauser from Louisville, Kentucky, won by correctly spelling the word *gladiolus*.

