



A Day in a One-Room Schoolhouse
Marathon County Historical Society Living History Learning Project

Spelling Bee

Activity Packet For Virtual Visits



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Note to Students, Parents, and Teachers

Events of spring 2020 encouraged the development of materials that could be used by students learning at home and unable to attend the Little Red Schoolhouse program in person. This packet contains information students can use to prepare for an off-site experience of a one-room school.

The usual lessons at the schoolhouse are taught by retired local school teachers and employees of the Marathon County Historical Society. A full set of lessons has been video-recorded and posted to our YouTube channel, which you can access through the Little Red Schoolhouse page on our website.

- ♦ *If you have any questions, please call the Marathon County Historical Society office at 715-842-5750 and leave a message for Anna or Sandy, or email Sandy at sblock@marathoncountyhistory.org*

On-Site Schoolhouse Daily Schedule

9:00 am	Arrival Time. If you attended the Schoolhouse in person, the teacher would ring the bell to signal children to line up in two lines, boys and girls, in front of the door. Everyone would recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Students would then file into school, girls first. They would take their places in rows of desks, girls on one side, boys on the other side.
9:30 am	Reading and Recitation using McGuffey's Eclectic Readers.
10:00 am	Arithmetic problems using lap slates.
10:30 am	Recess with turn-of-the-century games and bathroom break.
11:00 am	Penmanship exercises using dip pens and ink.
11:45 am	Lunch with free play and bathroom break.
12:30 am	Geography and Current Events using a turn-of-the-century map.
1:00 pm	Old-fashioned Spelling Bee.
1:45 pm	Chores including re-stocking of wood stove and general clean-up of the classroom and schoolhouse grounds.
2:00 pm	School Dismissed.

Spelling Bee

Divide students into two even groups. Alternate groups as one student per team attempts to spell a word. If they spell correctly, they stay in the game. If they miss, they sit down. The following word lists can be used.

Spelling Bee Procedure

For a traditional spelling bee, teacher chooses two team captains. The captains then take turns choosing one student at a time to add to their team. (Hint: Require captains to alternate boys and girls in their choices.) Have teams stand in parallel lines from the front row of desks extending to the back of the room. Teacher stands in the front of the room to explain the procedure.

The teacher chooses a team to begin. Teacher will pronounce a word, use it once in a sentence, and repeat the word. The student who is first in line tries to spell the word. Students who spell their words correctly move to the back of their team's line. Students who spell their word incorrectly are "out" and should sit down at a desk. The student who is first in line from the other team will then have a chance to try to spell the same word correctly. Words and teams then alternate until only two students, one from each team, remain. At this point, when both students misspell a word, the word is thrown out and both spellers are given another word. This continues until one misspells a word and the other student spells the same word correctly. The winner may receive a small prize.

- ◆ Students must speak loudly and clearly when spelling.
- ◆ Students who are waiting for their turn or who are out must remain silent.
- ◆ Spellers have one chance per word to correct themselves.

EASY WORDS

DATE	SAME	DEEP	BRAG	SANK
FEEL	BEEF	RIDE	GENT	BARK
PILE	TIRE	HOLD	SPIT	NEAT
LATE	TONE	WEEP	BEST	YELL
MILE	PAGE	CHIP	CRIB	DARK
CURE	DEED	SHOT	FROG	HEAT
FADE	LIFE	BUMP	JUST	BELT
LIKE	HOPE	GRAB	GIFT	BANG
CUBE	CAGE	SHIP	KING	DIME
RATE	KEEP	LUMP	STOP	HINT
BOLT	WIFE	SLED	SHUT	LIME
TUBE	ROPE	SPOT	WEST	GAVE
CAME	WAKE	PUMP	DEAL	GANG
FEED	WEED	SLIP	CARD	MINT
FIRE	HIDE	JUMP	TELL	HANG
BONE	NOTE	THEN	HARD	FINE
	HUGE	DRIP	MEAL	DULL

MORE EASY
WORDS

CLEAR	CHARM	GIANT	SKATE
RANG	FLAME	RIVER	DROVE
MINE	SLATE	SILVER	TEACH
NAVY	SHINE	AWAKE	PINCH
REAL	CLASP	BEHIND	BRUSH
FILL	SMALL	BEHAVE	CRUSH
GULL	BRING	ATTEND	STORE
CLOG	STAMP	ALONE	SPIRIT
PLOT	COAST	CONFUSE	STORY
BLAZE	GRAND	BLADE	BUBBLE
DRIVE	TOAST	CREAM	ANGEL
GLOBE	STAND	BLIND	FIFTY
TRIBE	SWING	CRASH	LATER
SHAPE	CRAFT	DREAM	UNDER
STEEP	THING	SPEND	GROUND
STONE	HORSE	GRIND	GROWL
BEAD	BROOM	SHADE	THREAD
STATE	SHORT	SMASH	
FLEET	LEGAL	TRADE	
BRIDE	HUMAN	TRASH	
SHORE	SILLY	STEAM	
BLAME	BUCKET	SMILE	

Medium

empty	pretend	poetry	urge
cotton	nail	monster	nurse
comic	canal	frost	apply
sadness	trail	sponge	deny
cavity	reject	lovely	type
crawl	brave	group	reply
green	chamber	wolf	spoil
brand	saint	would	moist
wealth	banish	thorn	destroy
screw	dare	former	choice
twelve	chair	scorn	allow
accuse	prayer	forward	pout
admit	chance	worthy	acid
assist	enemy	world	trace
decide	second	effort	tactic
define	spread	school	drink
divide	knelt	smooth	amuse
lamb	quiet	brook	child
numb	icicle	slumber	machine
debt	spring	stunt	general
comb	thirsty	true	breath
doubt	skirt	rumor	theft
flight	blown	crude	bother
	locate	rural	breathe

excuse	native	token	people
include	science	weaken	eager
amaze	powder	kitten	greedy
refuse	county	happen	weary
invent	towel	written	arrow
arrest	beard	broken	window
contest	build	frozen	borrow
discuss	verse	crayon	clever
across	witch	demon	painter
agree	search	cabin	button
asleep	guess	wagon	picnic
report	chalk	dragon	grumble
entire	serve	sudden	trouble
explode	below	kitchen	factory
contact	remote	mitten	orange
forest	ahead	lemon	fossil
hobby	dismiss	gravel	office
problem	forgive	channel	olive
huddle	appeal	chicken	wonder
scribble	appear	failure	reptile
ticket	extreme	daily	refuse
lizard	assign	neatly	remain
Friday	bacon	measles	submit
freedom	bitten	beaver	delay

Difficult

magazine	formula	library	immense
antique	carnival	dialect	pretense
submarine	decimal	diagram	curtain
heroic	mystery	pedestal	mermaid
dilemma	senator	medicine	diameter
poetic	physical	slavery	nervous
deliver	common	ache	surface
consider	district	thief	invasion
practice	element	pierce	usually
rabid	bracelet	orphan	measure
image	expert	quarter	stubborn
fashion	display	consume	creature
crystal	balloon	false	future
crimson	contain	theme	picture
kidney	padlock	length	exactly
distance	closet	solemn	patient
liquid	dentist	launch	creation
certain	volume	strange	operation
thimble	message	squeeze	ocean
villain	fortunate	onion	special
galaxy	mercury	alien	musician
currency	harmony	brilliant	mansion
miracle	barrier	opinion	echo
	festival	pressure	leaves

escaped	typewriter	ceramic	silence
creator	masterpiece	revolting	jealousy
builder	ancient	demonstrate	stomach
lawyer	alternate	algebra	initial
pianist	glamour	raspberry	conceive
kingdom	tomato	ordeal	official
childhood	either	positive	succeed
engineer	weapon	dishonest	weird
metallic	recipe	obvious	grammar
civilize	debris	evident	scenery
exception	finance	apparent	college
condition	frontier	behavior	knowledge
satisfy	athlete	outrageous	suspicion
improper	progress	census	edition
illegal	ancestor	petition	attorney
ignorant	success	advertise	autumn
displease	museum	secrecy	vehicle
antidote	pyramid	mammal	phantom
misspell	licorice	hideous	scissors
upheaval	rhythm	particle	foreign
allure	fragile	nickel	phlegm
bicycle	nucleus	diligent	daughter
collect	thorough	balance	condemn
epidemic	schedule	elegant	cologne

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