Non-Fiction

Better Spelling in 5 Minutes a Day: Fun Spelling Activities for Kids and Parents on the Go
by Mark Pennington. J428.1P

Scholastic Dictionary of Spelling
by Marvin Terban
Instructions for looking up a word the reader does not necessarily know how to spell, memory tricks to correct commonly misspelled words, and clearly explained general spelling rules (and their exceptions). J 428.1 T

Spelling Rules
by Ann Heinrichs
A basic guide that demystifies the mysteries of spelling J428.13 H

DVDs

Akeelah and the Bee
Responding to a challenge by her school’s principal, eleven year old Akeelah Anderson decides to participate in a spelling bee to avoid detention for her many absences. CHILD DVD

Arthur’s Teacher Trouble
by Marc Brown. CHILD DVD

Bee Season
Eliza demonstrates such an amazing gift for spelling any word given to her that her father insists on coaching her himself. Adapted from the novel for adults by Myla Goldberg. Rated PG–13 TEEN DVD

A Boy Named Charlie Brown
Good Grief! Charlie Brown is going to New York City to compete in a big spelling bee. CHILD DVD

Spellbound
Follows the lives of eight young Americans who share one goal: to win the 1999 National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. Adapted from the novel by Janet McDonald. TEEN DVD 793.715743

Websites and Online Resources

Scripps National Spelling Bee
www.spellingbee.com

Spelling Bee of Canada
www.spellingbeefofcanada.ca/
Canwest Canspell National Spelling Bee
www.canada.com/national/features/canspell/index.html

SpellBEE is a new kind of spelling activity. Each time you play, you will be able to choose a partner and play a word game with them. www.spellbee.org

5th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee,
a musical comedy based on a fictional spelling bee
www.spellingbeethemusical.com

The 1878 Bret Harte poem “The Spelling Bee at Angels” describes a spelling contest held at a California gold mining camp.
http://poetry.poetryx.com/poems/11523

The Ferguson Library
One Public Library Plaza
203 964-1000
www.fergusonlibrary.org

Resources selected by the Youth Services Librarians at The Ferguson Library
For Younger Readers

Abigail Spells
by Anna Alter
George helps his best friend Abigail practice for the city spelling bee, then cheers her up when she makes a mistake. EPIC

Arthur’s Teacher Trouble
by Marc Brown
Arthur is amazed when he’s chosen to be in the school spellathon. EPIC

The Friendship of Milly and Tug
by Dian Curtis Regan
Milly the cat and her friend Tug the mouse challenge each other to a spelling contest. JBEG

Judy Moody Gets Famous!
by Megan McDonald and Peter Reynolds
When a third grade classmate gets her picture in the paper for winning a spelling bee, Judy is determined to find a way to become famous herself. JBEG

Miss Alaineus: a Vocabulary Disaster
by Debra Frasier
Sage’s embarrassing homework assignment snafu becomes an inspiration for the vocabulary parade. JBEG

The Many Adventures of Johnny Mutton: Stories and Pictures
by James Proimos
Although he is a sheep, Johnny Mutton goes to school and competes in the spelling bee. JBEG

The Royal Bee
by Frances Park and Ginger Park
A poor boy from Korea is determined to win a spelling bee, even though poverty keeps him from formally attending school. EPIC

For Older Readers

Akeelah and the Bee: a Novel
by James Whitfield Ellison
A novelization of the movie. JPBK

As If Being 12¾ Isn’t Bad Enough, My Mother Is Running for President!
by Donna Gephart
Vanessa has all the usual problems of being twelve – including spelling bees and a secret admirer, but now her mom is ruining her life by running for U.S. President. JFIC

Bicycle Madness
by Jane Kurtz and Beth Peck
In the late nineteenth century, Lillie gains friendship and help with a spelling bee from her suffragette neighbor Frances Willard. Includes historical notes. JFIC

Fame and Glory in Freedom, Georgia
by Barbara O’Connor
Unpopular sixth–grader Burdette “Bird” Weaver persuades the new boy at school to be her partner for a spelling bee. JFIC

The Girls Take Over
by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
The Malloy girls and the Hatford boys continue to get in trouble as they try to outdo each other in bottle racing, spelling, and baseball. JFIC

How Do You Spell Geek?
by Julie Anne Peters
The relationship between best friends Kimberly and Ann is put to the test when Ann encourages a geeky new student to compete against front runner Kimberly in the spelling bee. JFIC

I Put a Spell on You
by Adam Selzer
When Chrissie Woodward realizes that the adults are out to fix the big spelling bee, she starts collecting evidence. Told through in–class letters, memos, notes from Chrissie’s investigation, and testimony from spelling bee contestants. TEEN FIC

Little Town on the Prairie
by Laura Ingalls Wilder
Pa ‘spells down’ the whole town in a community spelling bee. JFIC

Regarding the Bees: a Lesson, in Letters, on Honey, Dating, and Other Sticky Subjects
by Kate Klise and Sarah M. Klise
Geyser Creek Middle School seventh graders nervously prepare for an important test, navigate the tricky waters of first crushes, and try to bring their bee mascot to a local spelling competition. JFIC

Spelling Bee
by Ann M. Martin and Charles Tang
Spelling bee winner Hank is set to square off against the best speller from Mr. Berger’s class. JPBK

Spellbound
by Janet McDonald
Raven, a teenage mother and high school dropout, decides with the help of her best friend Aisha, to study for a spelling bee. TEEN FIC

Spelldown: The Big-time Dreams of a Small-town Word Whiz: a Novel
by Karon Luddy
In 1969, the town of Red Clover, South Carolina supports thirteen-year-old Karlene as she wins her school spelling bee and strives to qualify for the National Bee. JFIC

White Bread Competition
by Jo Ann Yolanda Hernández
When Luz, a ninth–grade Latina student in San Antonio, wins a spelling competition, her success triggers a variety of emotions among family, friends, and the community. JFIC