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Scripps National Spelling Bee

Vocabulary List for Fourth Graders

2017-2018

- insect** (*noun*) one of many small, invertebrate, segmented animals with six legs and often wings.
- scale** (*noun*) a collection of musical pitches arranged in ascending or descending order.
- crept** (*verb*) went timidly or cautiously or so as to escape notice or attention.
- speak** (*verb*) to utter words : talk.
- carving** (*noun*) a design or figure made by cutting (something) with deliberate care or practiced precision.
- oval** (*adjective*) having the shape of an egg.
- purse** (*noun*) a receptacle used to carry money and often other small objects.
- mossy** (*adjective*) covered with a downy, spore-producing plant or something like it.
- cattle** (*plural noun*) domesticated animals with four feet that are kept on farms or ranches usually for meat or milk.
- offer** (*noun*) something presented for acceptance.
- hairpin** (*noun*) a fastener to hold the thin threadlike outgrowths of the skin on your head in place.
- clipper** (*noun*) a fast, full-rigged sailing ship with long slender lines, an overhanging bow, tall masts and a large sail area.
- marsh** (*noun*) a tract of soft wet land : swamp.
- shabby** (*adjective*) threadbare and faded from wear : appearing outworn.
- hushed** (*adjective*) free of noise or agitation : calm.
- manner** (*noun*) the mode or method in which something is done or happens : way, mode, fashion.
- scraped** (*verb*) damaged or injured the surface of something by contact with a rough surface.
- impact** (*noun*) a forceful contact, collision or onset : the degree or concentration of force in a collision.
- breeze** (*noun*) a light, gentle soft-blowing wind.
- standoff** (*noun*) tie, draw, deadlock.
- narrow** (*adjective*) not as wide as usual or as expected.
- lazily** (*adverb*) in a manner marked by lack of activity.
- primers** (*plural noun*) usually small introductory books on a specific subject.



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This list includes 50 challenging fourth grade words and, to extend learning, 50 challenging fifth grade words. If you learn the spellings and meanings of these 100 words, you will be well prepared for a fourth grade classroom bee. If you would like to be well prepared for a school spelling bee, ask your teacher for the 450-word School Spelling Bee Study List.

24.	marbles	<i>(plural noun)</i>	little balls made of a hard substance (as glass) typically ranging from about 1/2 inch to about 1 inch in diameter and used in various games.
25.	tennis	<i>(noun)</i>	a game played by two players or pairs of players with rackets and a ball on a court divided by a low net.
26.	world	<i>(noun)</i>	the earth with all its inhabitants and all things upon it.
27.	kettle	<i>(noun)</i>	a metallic vessel used for boiling liquids.
28.	shelves	<i>(plural noun)</i>	flat pieces of wood or other material fastened horizontally at a distance from the floor (as on a wall or in a frame) that are used to hold objects.
29.	crumpled	<i>(verb)</i>	pressed or twisted into folds or wrinkles.
30.	mailboxes	<i>(plural noun)</i>	closed containers at or near dwellings that hold the postal material (such as letters) of the people who live there.
31.	perhaps	<i>(adverb)</i>	possibly but not certainly : maybe.
32.	nannies	<i>(plural noun)</i>	children's nurses or caregivers.
33.	button	<i>(noun)</i>	a small device that is secured to an article (as of clothing or upholstery) that works as a fastener by passing it through a hole or loop.
34.	alley	<i>(noun)</i>	a passageway between buildings.
35.	sprinkle	<i>(verb)</i>	to scatter in drops or particles.
36.	complete	<i>(verb)</i>	to bring something to an end often in a finished or perfected state.
37.	diaper	<i>(noun)</i>	a basic garment for infants consisting of absorbent material (such as cloth) drawn up between the legs and fastened at the waist.
38.	transporting	<i>(verb)</i>	transferring, carrying or moving from one person or place to another.
39.	lukewarm	<i>(adjective)</i>	neither cold nor hot : tepid.
40.	violet	<i>(noun)</i>	a small-flowered plant of a genus of usually spring-blooming flowers that have leafy stems and purple, yellow or white flowers.
41.	castle	<i>(noun)</i>	a large fortified building often surrounded by a moat.
42.	bicycle	<i>(noun)</i>	a vehicle that has two wheels one behind the other, a steering handle, a seat and pedals, which are used to propel it.
43.	village	<i>(noun)</i>	a small cluster of houses and other buildings (as stores and churches) forming a unit distinct from the surrounding countryside.
44.	promptly	<i>(adverb)</i>	at once : immediately, quickly.
45.	matron	<i>(noun)</i>	a married woman who is usually older and has considerable social position or some other special prestige.
46.	produce	<i>(noun)</i>	agricultural products (as fresh fruits and vegetables).
47.	horrid	<i>(adjective)</i>	inspiring disgust : nasty.
48.	invitation	<i>(noun)</i>	a written or verbal request to be present or participate.



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49.	faucet	<i>(noun)</i>	a fixture for drawing a liquid from a pipe or other vessel.
50.	enormous	<i>(adjective)</i>	marked by extraordinarily great size, number, degree or significance.
51.	canal	<i>(noun)</i>	an artificial waterway designed for navigation or for draining or irrigating land.
52.	shilling	<i>(noun)</i>	a former British monetary unit that was equal to 12 pence or 1/20 pound.
53.	halter	<i>(noun)</i>	a rope or strap with or without a part that encircles the head that is used to lead or tie up a horse or other animal.
54.	basting	<i>(verb)</i>	moistening foods with liquid (such as pan drippings) while they are cooking to prevent the food from drying out and to add flavor.
55.	hornet	<i>(noun)</i>	any of the larger social wasps that are vigorous strong-flying insects with powerful stings.
56.	Viking	<i>(noun)</i>	one of the pirate Northmen who plundered the coasts of Europe in the 8th to 10th centuries.
57.	chapel	<i>(noun)</i>	a private place of worship.
58.	pouted	<i>(verb)</i>	showed displeasure by thrusting out the lips or wearing a sullen expression.
59.	aspect	<i>(noun)</i>	a position facing a particular direction : exposure.
60.	rotating	<i>(verb)</i>	performing something in turn : alternating in a series.
61.	crooked	<i>(adjective)</i>	bent : twisted.
62.	warmth	<i>(noun)</i>	gentle heat.
63.	craggy	<i>(adjective)</i>	full of steep, rugged, rocky natural high grounds.
64.	Icelandic	<i>(adjective)</i>	relating to a language of the people from an island near the Arctic Ocean southeast of Greenland.
65.	temple	<i>(noun)</i>	a building dedicated to the worship of a deity.
66.	engraved	<i>(verb)</i>	cut upon (something, such as wood or metal) with a carving instrument in order to form an inscription or image.
67.	newlyweds	<i>(plural noun)</i>	people recently married.
68.	protested	<i>(verb)</i>	objected to.
69.	amusing	<i>(adjective)</i>	pleasantly entertaining.
70.	cinders	<i>(plural noun)</i>	ashes : the incombustible residue of something burnt.
71.	abroad	<i>(adverb)</i>	beyond the boundaries of a country.
72.	superb	<i>(adjective)</i>	of the highest quality.
73.	Norse	<i>(adjective)</i>	of or relating to ancient Scandinavia or the language of its inhabitants.
74.	custody	<i>(noun)</i>	protection, care, maintenance and tuition : guardianship.
75.	sullen	<i>(adjective)</i>	gloomily or resentfully silent.
76.	Bollywood	<i>(noun)</i>	the motion-picture industry in India.
77.	clambering	<i>(verb)</i>	moving by or as if by catching hold with the hands and feet : crawling, climbing.
78.	strident	<i>(adjective)</i>	marked by insistent, discordant, harsh or grating sound.



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79.	severely	<i>(adverb)</i>	in a manner that is strict in judgment, discipline or government.
80.	manure	<i>(noun)</i>	animal waste from stables and barnyards that is used to supply nutrients to soil.
81.	intersect	<i>(verb)</i>	to divide something by passing through or across it : cross.
82.	slobbery	<i>(adjective)</i>	marked by drooling or allowing saliva to fall or dribble from the mouth.
83.	valuables	<i>(plural noun)</i>	things of worth usually of the nature of personal effects.
84.	expensive	<i>(adjective)</i>	characterized by high price or cost.
85.	Venice	<i>(geographical entry)</i>	city and port in northeastern Italy.
86.	breakfast	<i>(noun)</i>	the first meal of the day.
87.	salvation	<i>(noun)</i>	the source, cause or means of preservation.
88.	unison	<i>(adverb)</i>	in precise and perfect agreement — used with "in."
89.	diagram	<i>(noun)</i>	a drawing or design that explains rather than represents.
90.	spinster	<i>(noun)</i>	a woman who seems unlikely to marry.
91.	grocery	<i>(noun)</i>	the store or place of business of a retail dealer in foods and household supplies.
92.	pastures	<i>(plural noun)</i>	lands that are used for the grazing of animals or are suitable for such use.
93.	neglected	<i>(adjective)</i>	not properly or sufficiently attended to or cared for.
94.	receptions	<i>(plural noun)</i>	social gatherings often for the purpose of extending a ceremonious or formal welcome.
95.	energetic	<i>(adjective)</i>	vigorously active.
96.	plantations	<i>(plural noun)</i>	usually large estates in a tropical or subtropical region that are generally cultivated by unskilled or semiskilled labor under central direction.
97.	decent	<i>(adjective)</i>	fairly good but not excellent.
98.	survival	<i>(noun)</i>	the continuation of life or existence in the presence of or despite difficult conditions.
99.	disguise	<i>(noun)</i>	unfamiliar or uncharacteristic style of dress worn to conceal one's identity.
100.	undesirable	<i>(adjective)</i>	unwanted, objectionable.