

The official book list of the Scripps National Spelling Bee

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2025-2026 Book Selections

One Bee Reading Level

First Grade:

- 1. Inky the Octopus by Erin Guendelsberger
- 2. Ahoy by Sophie Blackall
- 3. A Different Pond by Bao Phi
- 4. Not Yet by Hadley Davis and Zahra Lari

Second Grade:

- 1. Room for Everyone by Naaz Khan
- 2. Summertime Sleepers: Animals that Estivate by Melissa Stewart
- 3. Dog vs. Strawberry by Nelly Buchet
- 4. What Happened to You? by James Catchpole

Third Grade:

- 1. The Name Jar by Yangsook Choi
- 2. Maribel's Year by Michelle Sterling
- 3. Polly Diamond and the Magic Book: Book 1 by Alice Kulpers
- 4. The Hotel Balzaar by Kate DiCamillo

Two Bee Reading Level

Fourth Grade:

- 1. More to the Story by Hena Khan
- 2. El Deafo by Cece Bell
- 3. A Crown of Stories: The Life and Language of Beloved Author Toni Morrison by Carole Boston Weatherford
- 4. Odder by Katherine Applegate

Fifth Grade:

- 1. Impossible Creatures by Katherine Rundell
- 2. The Night War by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
- 3. Greenglass House by Kate Milford
- 4. The Secret Library by Kekla Magoon

Sixth Grade:

- 1. The Eyes & The Impossible by Dave Eggers
- 2. The House with a Clock in its Walls by John Bellairs
- 3. One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia
- 4. Sing it Like Celia by Monica Mancillas

Three Bee Reading Level

Seventh Grade:

- 1. Quagmire Tiarello Couldn't Be Better by Mylisa Larsen
- 2. Red Scarf Girl by Ji-li Jiang
- 3. The Tenth Mistake of Hank Hooperman by Gennifer Choldenko
- 4. Good Different by Meg Eden Kuyatt
- 5. White Bird by R.J. Palacio

Eighth Grade:

- 1. Piecing Me Together by Renee Watson
- 2. The Davenports: More Than This by Krystal Marquis
- 3. Stateless by Elizabeth Wein
- 4. A Few Red Drops: The Chicago Race Riots of 1919 by Claire Hartfield
- 5. Moon Over Manifest by Clare Vanderpool

