

FACTivity



Time Needed

One class period

Materials

- List of spelling bee words from “A Burning Question” FACTivity
- Additional spelling bee words are available online at:
<http://naturalinquirer.org>

FACTivity Methods

Before students turn to this FACTivity, have them close their monographs so the words cannot be seen.

The following 70 words can be used for a spelling bee in your classroom. Each of these 70 words (or phrases) was used in the “A Burning Question” monograph. You may conduct your spelling bee in the usual way; when a student misspells a word, he or she is eliminated from the bee. Alternatively, you may also continue without elimination by simply keeping score of right and wrong spellings.

The format for spelling bees is as follows: The reader will say, for example: “Drought. *Flowers wilted as the drought continued.* Drought.” The reader should speak clearly and carefully. The speller returns with: “Drought. D-R-O-U-G-H-T. Drought.” A student may be recruited to be the reader. Another student may be recruited to write each correctly spelled word on the white board.

FACTivity

A BURNING QUESTION SPELLING BEE

1. **Aircraft.** *The aircraft roared across the sky, making us all look up.*
2. **Alaskan.** *The visitors marveled at the Alaskan glaciers.*
3. **Application.** *Tanya filled out an application for a weekend job.*
4. **Arson.** *From the charred remains, the detectives suspected arson in the woods behind the new house.*
5. **Assumption.** *Making an assumption before knowing the facts may not be the best idea.*
6. **Authority.** *Teachers have authority over students in the classroom.*
7. **Billboard.** *Seeing the billboard reminded Lee to buy orange juice on his way home.*
8. **Bole.** *The tree trunk, or bole, had begun to rot on the forest floor.*
9. **Bureau.** *Chris's mother worked for an organization called the Bureau of Land Management.*
10. **Calculating.** *The shopper began calculating the total cost of all of her items.*
11. **Campaigns.** *Some election campaigns include heated debate, while others seem relatively quiet.*
12. **Campfire.** *The campers liked to sing around the campfire.*
13. **Category.** *When organizing his clothes, Pablo liked to include color as a category.*
14. **Causation.** *Scientists are unlikely to point to causation as a reason for change between two variables.*
15. **Characteristics.** *The students were asked to list the characteristics of good study habits.*
16. **Commission.** *His father was a popular member of the city commission.*
17. **Community.** *Sports provide a community for young athletes.*
18. **Condition.** *What is the condition of the car following the fender bender?*
19. **Controlled.** *To keep from having any fights, dogs should be controlled at the dog park.*

20. **Curious.** *Everyone was curious after hearing a strange noise in the hallway.*
21. **Detective.** *The detective collected clues following the latest burglary.*
22. **Dissatisfaction.** *Some of the citizens expressed dissatisfaction with the county's decision.*
23. **Drought.** *Flowers wilted as the drought continued.*
24. **Duration.** *A test of long duration may contribute to low test scores.*
25. **Economist.** *The economist predicted a healthy shopping season.*
26. **Effect.** *The snow's effect on driving conditions was immediate.*
27. **Effective.** *To be effective, do your best.*
28. **Enthusiastic.** *The kids were enthusiastic about going to the movie.*
29. **Escape.** *Renee's puppy tried unsuccessfully to escape her enclosure.*
30. **Evidence.** *It is usually best to base our decisions on clear evidence.*
31. **Exhaust.** *The old car's exhaust was a menacing dark color.*
32. **Exist.** *Do you wonder if unicorns exist?*
33. **Experiment.** *The experiment went well until the last 5 minutes.*
34. **Faulty.** *A faulty tablet can cause a student a lot of headaches.*
35. **Federal.** *Federal and State authorities were involved in the investigation.*
36. **Fictional.** *Almost everybody has at least one fictional friend.*
37. **Fire setting.** *Fire setting is the act of starting a fire.*
38. **Fuel.** *LaRon's mother stopped for fuel before setting off on her road trip.*
39. **Hypothesize.** *Scientists hypothesize as a part of the experimental process.*
40. **Ignite.** *Be careful not to ignite a fire.*
41. **Individual.** *Each individual student left the building.*
42. **Journal.** *Keeping a daily journal is a good idea.*
43. **Lightning.** *The lightning was so bright that the nighttime looked like noon.*
44. **Likelihood.** *The likelihood of getting lost between your home and your school is minimal.*
45. **Monograph.** *The monograph presented one research article on fire prevention.*
46. **New Mexico.** *New Mexico is located in the Southwestern United States.*

- 47. Occurrence.** *The occurrence of flooding has been rising.*
- 48. Opportunity.** *Avona welcomed the opportunity to perform in the school play.*
- 49. Organization.** *The school band was known as an organization full of fun-loving students.*
- 50. Ounce.** *An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.*
- 51. Oxygen.** *Oxygen is one-third of the fire triangle.*
- 52. Particular.** *The toddler wanted just one particular toy.*
- 53. Positive.** *It is a good idea to stay positive when faced with a challenge.*
- 54. Prescribed fire.** *The forester set a prescribed fire to reduce the amount of brush in the area.*
- 55. Recorded.** *Ms. Samman recorded everyone's test scores into her computer.*
- 56. Relationships.** *The students looked for relationships between plant health and rainfall amounts.*
- 57. Smokey Bear.** *Smokey Bear reminds us to be careful with wildfire.*
- 58. Suppress.** *Gavin wanted to suppress a smile when he saw his sister trip.*
- 59. Symbol.** *The bald eagle is a symbol of the United States.*
- 60. Taught.** *The older sister taught her younger brother to ride a bike.*
- 61. Temperature.** *The air temperature seems to be higher every summer.*
- 62. Timber.** *Timber is a renewable resource and therefore makes a good material for building.*
- 63. Tribal.** *This article described fire prevention programs on Tribal lands.*
- 64. Undesirable.** *Being the last person in line is often undesirable.*
- 65. Unemployment.** *Unemployment numbers are often used to describe how many people are out of work.*
- 66. Variable.** *The scientist compared one variable with another variable.*
- 67. Vehicle.** *A large vehicle is needed to carry a soccer team.*
- 68. Volcano.** *A volcano eruption is a natural event.*
- 69. Wildland fire.** *Wildland fire has become an important concern in California.*
- 70. Benjamin Franklin.** *Benjamin Franklin was an early American inventor.*