***INCORPORATING THE SPELLING BEE INTO YOUR LESSON PLANS.***

Here are just a few ideas about incorporating the spelling bee into the classroom

Because it’s a group activity – with less stress and more action on the part of all students –

A team spelling bee is a great way to introduce the spelling bee activity. Follow soon after with individual spelling bee.

Discuss the different skills each calls for……

In classroom spelling bees, the teacher performs all the functions – pronouncer, judge, and timer.

Spelling bees provide serious help, but they should be fun.

Keep them easy going and as quick moving as possible.

In general, the teacher should give relatively easy words in the first round, so that every student has the opportunity for success.

Each succeeding round should get more difficult because, you want to eliminate the weaker spellers, to narrow down the winners.

Students should not be upset if they get a word wrong, encourage them if the students get the words right or wrong. Classmates should not laugh when a student gets a word wrong.

Recognition, or some sort of prize or award, is a good motivator.

The spelling bee can be used to review for tests or after each unit.

You can modify the spelling bee in various ways. Have students prepare lists of words in a vocabulary book from each unit of the textbook. Maybe have them prepared to explain why they included certain words in their books, depending on levels.

The spelling bee normally goes until there is just one speller left or a group of spellers, but you can also use it to fill a specific amount of time. At the end of the time, the remaining spellers are co-champions.