

Local Qualifying Bees for the National Geographic Geography Bee & Scripps National Spelling Bee

Ballard will host the local levels of the National Geography Bee and Scripps National Spelling Bee this school year. The Geography Bee and the Spelling Bee will take place on January 12, 2011. The exact times will be announced closer to the events. Any student who wishes to participate should sign up by August 20, 2010. This can be done at one of Ballard's Kick-Off meetings or by contacting Regina Christian at 334-298-6913 or 334-740-9887.

The National Geography Bee is for students in grades 4 through 8 who will not turn 16 by the middle of May. There is a minimum participation requirement of six students. A per student fee will be determined based on the number of students participating in order to pay the \$99 school fee that is required.

The state level of the National Geography Bee will take place at a location to be announced later. The National Geography Bee will take place in Washington D.C. at a date to be announced later.

For more information concerning the National Geography Bee go to www.nationalgeographic.com.

The Scripps National Spelling Bee, hosted by The Birmingham Post-Herald, is open to students who have not passed beyond 8th grade on or before February 1, 2009. They must not have reached their 16th birthday on or before the date of the national finals at the end of May. A per student fee will be determined based on the number of students participating in order to pay the \$100 school fee that is required.

Homeschoolers will participate in a "county" level bee in Birmingham in February, at a later determined date. The winner of this bee proceeds to the Alabama State Spelling Bee and the winner at the state level proceeds to the national level at later determined dates.

Go to www.myspellit.com for a free study web site from Merriam-Webster and the Scripps National Spelling Bee.