

Spelling List E-1

/ă/ and /ĕ/

Spelling Words

1. captain
2. balance
3. battery
4. gratitude
5. distract
6. expand
7. attack
8. relax
9. thrash
10. snagged
11. thread
12. empty
13. nestle
14. trendsetter
15. elect
16. expect
17. present
18. century
19. rebel
20. spread



Review Words

21. craft
22. enter
23. crabby

Challenge Words

24. depth
25. pledge

About Your Spelling Words

Each of this week's words has a short a (ă) or short e (ĕ) vowel sound.

The /ă/ sound is the vowel you hear in the first syllable of the word **apple**.

The /ĕ/ sound is the vowel you hear at the beginning of the word **egg**.

Name: _____

List E-1: /ă/ and /ě/

Spelling Scramble



Unscramble your spelling words.

1. celanab _____

2. depegl _____

3. gedsgan _____

4. etestdrentr _____

5. tspenre _____

6. afcrt _____

7. lebre _____

8. eytbrta _____

9. rsthah _____

10. cetel _____

11. acrbyb _____

12. lexra _____

13. npaxed _____

14. rtaedh _____

15. tpyem _____

16. eptecx _____

17. acipnat _____

18. setnle _____

19. erapds _____

20. etren _____

21. nrtuyce _____

22. catatk _____

23. agidtuert _____

24. tiarcats _____

25. hdept _____

Name: _____

List E-1: /ă/ and /ě/

Spelling Word Search

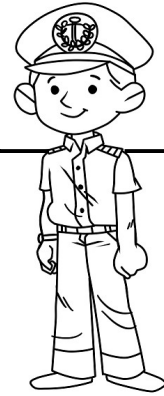
B	C	A	P	T	A	I	N	G	D	E	P	T	H	P
A	L	R	E	T	G	L	M	E	X	P	A	N	D	R
L	E	M	P	T	Y	R	S	P	R	E	A	D	G	E
A	L	D	I	S	T	R	A	C	T	O	L	A	T	S
N	G	I	A	I	N	G	X	T	T	N	E	X	R	E
C	E	L	E	C	T	A	O	S	I	H	I	N	E	N
E	O	S	P	L	E	D	G	E	N	T	R	G	N	T
A	T	T	A	C	K	I	E	G	G	N	U	A	D	I
X	H	I	X	A	D	O	N	A	E	P	A	D	S	L
E	R	L	N	E	S	T	L	E	N	D	L	G	E	H
G	E	N	O	R	X	G	L	R	E	B	E	L	T	C
B	A	T	T	E	R	Y	S	N	N	I	S	S	T	R
I	D	A	N	L	I	C	E	N	T	U	R	Y	E	A
L	S	C	R	A	B	B	Y	G	E	N	E	I	R	F
G	O	G	E	X	P	E	C	T	R	L	O	E	L	T

Find your spelling words in the puzzle. Words are hidden → , ↓ , and ↘.

Spelling Words			Review
CAPTAIN	RELAX	ELECT	CRAFT
BALANCE	THRASH	EXPECT	ENTER
BATTERY	SNAGGED	PRESENT	CRABBY
GRATITUDE	THREAD	CENTURY	Challenge
DISTRACT	EMPTY	REBEL	
EXPAND	NESTLE	SPREAD	
ATTACK	TRENDSETTER		



Name: _____



Alphabetical Order

Rewrite each word list in alphabetical order.

1. century, craft, crabby, nestle, captain

_____ / _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

2. depth, battery, balance, attack, distract

_____ / _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

3. enter, elect, expect, expand, empty

_____ / _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

4. gratitude, present, pledge, relax, rebel

_____ / _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

5. snagged, spread, thrash, trendsetter, thread

_____ / _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

Name: _____

Red Pandas

by Guy Belleranti

I smile as I watch a cinnamon colored, bushy-tailed red panda rest in a tree at the zoo. Its cream-colored, kitten-like face is at least as cute as a giant panda's!



Despite the common name "panda," red pandas are not close relatives with giant pandas. DNA tests show the much larger giant pandas are

bears. Red pandas are not bears. They're in their own unique family. Raccoons, which share the red pandas' ring-striped tails, are a distant relative.

It's easy to see though why people may think red pandas and giant pandas are closely related. Like giant pandas, red pandas live in cool, damp mountain forests containing bamboo. Also like giant pandas, they have an enlarged wrist bone that acts like a thumb for grasping bamboo.

While red pandas main source of food is bamboo, they have a carnivore's stomach. This means they will only eat the tender leaves and shoots. They can digest only small amounts at a time. Because of this, they must eat 2 to 4 pounds every day. That's a lot for an animal weighing only 6 to 14 pounds! In warmer weather, they also eat fruit and insects. Sometimes they eat eggs or even small animals.

Red pandas spend most of their time in the trees. Trees provide avenues of escape from predators like snow leopards and dholes (a type of wild dog). They're acrobatic climbers. They have semi-retractable claws to grip branches and long bushy tails for balance. They're usually mild-mannered, but they use their claws for defense if necessary. They can also release stinky odors from scent glands.

It can get pretty cold where red pandas live. Red pandas use their bushy tails as blankets in cold weather. Their thick fur and furry feet also provide warmth. Furry paw pads keep them from slipping on wet branches and snow.

Red pandas have excellent eyesight, hearing, and sense of smell. These senses, and special whiskers called vibrissae, help them search for food from dusk to dawn. During the day they usually rest.

While they usually live alone, they do come together to breed. Mothers give birth to one to four cubs. The cubs stay with Mom for about one year, or until the next litter is born.

Red pandas have a range much larger than giant pandas. However, they are in great danger. Their forest habitat continues to be replaced by farms. Poaching and illegal pet collection are also problems. Still, there is hope. Conservation groups like the Red Panda Network are training "forest guardians" to work with local people to create protected areas.

About the Author



Guy Belleranti is an author of fiction, poetry, articles, puzzles, and humor for children and adults. He also works as a docent at the Reid Park Zoo in Tucson, Arizona. The information in this article comes from his experiences teaching children about the wild animals at the zoo.

Name: _____

Red Pandas

by Guy Belleranti



1. Based on the information in the article, which of the following statements is true about red pandas?

- a. Red pandas are more closely related to giant pandas than to raccoons.
- b. Red pandas are more closely related to raccoons than to giant pandas.
- c. Red pandas are a species of bear.
- d. Red pandas are a species of raccoon.

2. Why does a red panda have to eat two to four pounds of bamboo leaves and shoots a day, even though they only weigh six to fourteen pounds themselves?

3. According to the article, why do red pandas spend most of their time in trees?

- a. They are better able to locate their prey from above the ground.
- b. They build nests in the trees where they spend the winter months.
- c. They are fearful that people will capture them if they remain on the ground.
- d. They can quickly escape from and stay out of the reach of predators.

4. Put a check mark () next to the the dangers that red panda populations face.

- Forests are being cut down and replaced by farms.
- People illegally keep red pandas as exotic pets.
- Humans illegally hunt red pandas.
- Most red panda babies die before they are a year old.

Name: _____

Graduation Party

by Kelly Hashway

Chris hauled the last folding chair up from the basement. He set it out on the deck and poured himself a glass of lemonade from the pitcher on the card table.

"Christopher, that's for the party," his mother said.

"But I'm thirsty."

"Then get yourself a drink from the refrigerator. And when you're done, your father needs help setting up the volleyball net."



"Why isn't Kurt helping?" Chris asked. "It's his party. Why am I stuck doing all the work while he's out with his friends."

The phone rang and Mom ran inside muttering, "That better not be the caterers with another problem. That food was supposed to be delivered an hour ago."

Chris poured himself another glass of lemonade, figuring his mom was too preoccupied to notice.

"Chris!" Dad yelled from the backyard. "I need a hand with this net."

"Coming!" Chris tossed his cup in the garbage and headed down the steps to the backyard. Kurt's Mustang pulled into the driveway. Chris turned and glared at his brother.

"Hey, Chris," Kurt said.

"The caterers are on their way," Chris's mom said, practically running down the deck stairs. "I think we'll set up the gift table next to the refreshments. Chris could you get another card table from the basement?"

"After he helps me with this net," Dad said.

"I'm going take a shower before the party," Kurt said, heading inside.

Unbelievable, Chris thought. I'm doing all the work and he's going to shower?

Chris helped his father with the volleyball net and then searched the basement for another table. He spotted one behind some boxes in the space under the stairs. He tried to

push them aside but they were too heavy.

"I'll get it," Kurt said, coming up behind him.

"It's about time you did something."

"What's that about?" Kurt asked, looking hurt.

"This is your party. But I've been doing everything. And people are going to give you presents and money. What do I get? Nothing. I wasted my whole day setting up while you hung out with your friends."

"You thought I was hanging out with my friends?"

"Weren't you?"

"No. I was working. I had to get a job to help pay for college. I've been mopping floors at the supermarket since five o'clock this morning."

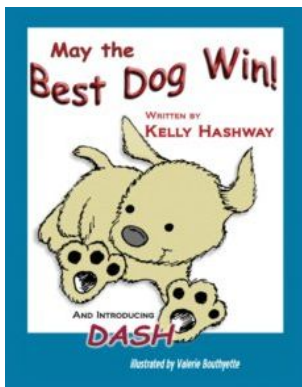
"Oh," Chris said. Suddenly carrying a few tables and chairs didn't seem so bad. "There's still an hour until the party starts. You should relax. Take a nap or something."

"You don't mind helping with the set up while I nap?" Kurt asked.

"No." Chris smiled. "Happy graduation."



About the Author



Kelly Hashway's latest book, *May the Best Dog Win*, is now available!

Dash has the perfect life until the Super Sweeper 5000 shows up. Sweeper runs all over the house sucking up the leftover food scraps, and he even gets his own room! But Dash won't give up his place as the favorite dog without a fight.

Hashway, Kelly. *May the Best Dog Win*. ISBN: 9780984589081

Name: _____



Graduation Party

by Kelly Hashway

1. When does this story mostly take place?
- a. at Chris and Kurt's house
 - b. at a park near Chris and Kurt's house
 - c. shortly before Chris' graduation party
 - d. shortly before Kurt's graduation party

2. Why was Chris upset with Kurt?

3. Where was Chris' brother Kurt during the day, and what was he doing?

4. Which job **didn't** Chris' family have to do to prepare for the party?
- a. cook food for the party
 - b. bring tables and chairs from the basement
 - c. put up a volleyball net
 - d. make lemonade for the party

5. If Kurt left the supermarket at 1:00 pm, how many hours was he working? _____

6. Place the events in order. Write 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th.

_____ The phone rang and Mom answered it.

_____ Chris brought up the folding chairs from the basement.

_____ Kurt left home to go to the supermarket.

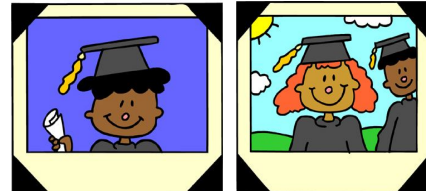
_____ Kurt takes a nap.

Name: _____

Graduation Party

Vocabulary Activity

Fill in the missing letters to create a vocabulary word from the article. Then write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.



1. ___ a ___ e ___ e n ___ _____

hint: synonym for cellar

2. ___ u ___ t ___ ___ i n ___ _____

hint: speaking in a low voice that is difficult to hear

3. ___ r e ___ ___ c ___ ___ i ___ d _____

hint: busy with something; lost in thought or work

4. ___ u s ___ ___ n ___ _____

hint: type of sports car made by Ford

5. ___ a t ___ ___ e ___ s _____

hint: people who are hired to prepare food

6. ___ u ___ ___ ___ ___ a r ___ e t _____

hint: large grocery store

7. ___ ___ ___ d u ___ ___ ___ ___ n _____

hint: celebration to honor a student who has finished high school or college

