

# Abigail Spells

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[www.abigailspells.com](http://www.abigailspells.com)

## Curriculum Guide

*Abigail Spells* introduces a number of topics and concepts that can be explored with children. One of those topics is friendship. To explore the topic of friendship, start a discussion with your kids using the following questions.

1. Abigail and George like to dance together, make art together, and tell stories. What do you like to do with your friends?
2. What are some things you do to cheer up your friends when they are feeling down?
3. How do your friends cheer you up?
4. What are the things you love most about your friends?
5. What do your friends love most about you?

Another subject in the book that can be explored with your kids is spelling. Ask them the below questions to get them interested in spelling.

1. Abigail likes to spell everything all day long. Can you spell the name of something important you did today?
2. When Abigail opens her lunch box she finds a carrot, some cereal, and a cookie. What do these three words have in common? What about their sounds is different?
3. When Abigail practices for the spelling bee, she spells three things in the room with her: apple, book and clock.
  - A. Which of these two words have double letters?
  - B. Which of these two words has a similar sound?
  - C. Can you put these words in alphabetical order?
  - D. Can you spell three things in the room with you right now?

4. When Abigail opens her notebook, she has spelled several groups of words that rhyme, such as fun, sun, and run. Can you make a list of three words that rhyme?
5. When Abigail is on stage, she misspells the word elephant. What does she do wrong and why do you think she made that mistake?
6. At the end of the story, Abigail spells a word to tell George how she feels. Can you spell a word that describes the way you feel right now?

*Abigail Spells* also touches on the subject of competition. When Abigail loses the spelling bee she is very disappointed. This book can be used as a way to discuss children's feelings and emotions; the excitement of looking forward to something, the thrill of winning, and the disappointment at losing. Use these questions to lead a discussion about the feelings related to competition.

1. How does Abigail feel when she learns about the spelling bee? How can you tell she feels that way?
2. How does Abigail feel when she gets on stage? How can you tell she feels that way?
3. Why do you think Abigail misspells her word?
4. Have you ever felt nervous about something? Can you describe what it felt like?
5. How does Abigail feel after the spelling bee?
6. How does George help her to feel better?
7. Has a friend ever cheered you up when you felt sad? How did they do it?