Multimedia Spelling Bee

Multimedia Spelling Bee is an educational game that employs waveform voice synthesis and stunning graphics to make spelling both fun and easy for students to learn.   The game will show the student a picture, say the word, and then ask him/her to spell that word.   The word will be spelled out for the student if they are experiencing difficulty.   Enough subjects and difficulty levels are included to make the game both varied and challenging.

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Introduction

Multimedia Spelling Bee is similar to a traditional spelling bee in that a word is spoken to the student and that they must respond with a correct spelling of the word.   That however, is where the similarity ends and the fun begins.   As well as the word being spoken to the student, he/she is presented with a colorful, photo-realistic picture which is displayed using one of over 100 dazzling effects.   The computer will respond with speech to both correct and incorrect answers accordingly.   If the player still cannot spell the word correctly after a user specified number of tries, the word will be spelled letter by letter both on the screen and by a digitized voice so that they will learn both by seeing and hearing.

Multimedia Spelling Bee was designed to develop spelling and primary computer skills in children.   It is sure to appeal to both parents and educators as well as being entertaining for the students.

System Requirements

Multimedia Spelling Bee requires the following items for proper use:

- Microsoft Windows Version 3.1 or later.
- A mouse or similar pointing device.
- A 386SX/33 with 4 megabytes of RAM or greater is recommended.
- A sound card.
- A color display (256 color or greater recommended) .

If you are unfamiliar with basic Microsoft Windows commands, terminology and procedures, it would be advised that you refer to your Windows manuals for background information on using any Windows based software.

Instructions

How to Play

After the introduction, the first thing the player will see is the New Game screen.   Here the player will be able to enter their name, the level to play, the number of words, and how many tries.   The player can also access the Options Screen from here by clicking on the Options button.   To begin the game, choose the OK button.

A picture will appear on the screen and the corresponding word will be pronounced.   The player then responds by typing the word in the space provided and pressing the <Enter> key on the keyboard.   If the player wishes to hear the word again, all they need to do is to click on the Repeat Word button which is located immediately below the response box.   If the word is spelled correctly, the next picture will be displayed.   This will continue until the level is completed.   If the word is spelled incorrectly, the player may attempt to spell the word again.   This will continue until their tries are exhausted.   If the player was unable to spell the word correctly, the word will be spelled for them and the next word will then appear.

This process continues until either the level ends or the program is stopped by the user (by a New Game or Exit command).   During the game the number of words spelled correctly and incorrectly, as well as the score will be updated and displayed.   At the end of each game the player will be shown a summary of their performance in the form of a Report Card which can be printed out for future reference.   The New Game screen is then displayed and the player may replay that level or choose a different one.

Scoring

Each word in *Multimedia Spelling Bee* starts out with a 100 point value.   The word decreases in point value each time it is spelled incorrectly.   After each game the player's score is evaluated against the High Scores List which is displayed at that time.   Until the game is exited or a new player plays, the score will not be reset and the player will have the opportunity to score as high as they wish.

Ending the Game

There are two ways to end a game of *Multimedia Spelling Bee*.   If you would simply like to start a new game, choose the New Game option from the File menu.   The other way to end the game is to choose the Exit option from the File menu.

Menu Commands

Along the top of the screen is the main menu for *Multimedia Spelling Bee*.   Choose one of the following for more information on each menu choice.

File Menu
Edit Menu
View Menu
Help Menu

File Menu Commands

The File Menu is divided into three sections as follows:

New Game...
Starts a new game of *Multimedia Spelling Bee.* The <u>New Game</u> screen will appear and allow you to choose the level you wish to play.

Install Data Disk...
Use this command in order to add a new level file to your system. See <u>Ordering Data Disks</u> under the help menu for information on purchasing additional game levels.

Exit
Exits the program after updating the high scores, and returns you to the Microsoft Windows environment.

Install Data Disk

Insert your *Multimedia Spelling Bee Data Disk* into your disk drive. Enter the drive letter into the space provided. For example, "A:" or "B:" and click the OK Button.

This will automatically copy and configure the necessary data files to your system. Your new level(s) will be integrated immediately into the *Multimedia Spelling Bee*. The level(s) will appear the next time a new game is started.

Edit Menu Commands

The Edit Menu contains two items:

Game Options

Allows changing of various <u>Game Options</u> and settings.   These are more advanced items, which control the special effects and display speed.

Sound Effects

Determines the state of the sound effects.   If checked, all sound effects will be played as normal. If unchecked, only the word pronunciations and phrases directly related to the word pronunciations will be played.

Game Options Screen

The game options screen allows you to change some of the display settings for Multimedia Spelling Bee.   You may never to need to change these settings, but if you should choose to do so, follow the instructions below.

Color Ordering

The default ordering of **GBR** is acceptable for most display adapters.   If you find that the colors are looking strange on your system, select the **RGB** ordering.

Image Display

All of the images in *Multimedia Spelling Bee* are stored as 24 bit color images, containing over 16 million colors.   If you are running the program on a laptop or notebook computer, you may get better results if you choose the **Grayscale** option.   For most users, the **24 Bit Color** option provides the most pleasing display.

Palette

An **Optimized** palette will give you the best looking pictures.   If your system is running very slow, choosing the **Fixed** palette option will speed things up somewhat, at the expense of image color quality.   On systems with 256 color displays, using the fixed option may provide more pleasing transition effects.

Dithering Method

If your display adapter supports non-palettized 24 bit color or palettized 256 color, then you do not need to worry about dithering.   If you have a 16 color display, then dithering will be of interest to you.   Dithering is a method for reducing the number of colors in an image. Dithering is a time consuming process, so it may take an extra amount of time in order for a picture to appear.   You may have to experiment with the different methods in order to determine which looks best on your system.   Choose from **Nearest Color, Floyd-Stein, Stucki, Burkes, Sierra, Stevenson.**

Note that most Windows display adapters have drivers for 256 color support, which will greatly enhance your enjoyment of this software.   Refer to your computer system documentation for more information.

Effect

Choose from a list of over 100 special effects used for the display of images.   Choose from **Random, None** or one of the specific effects in the list.   If you choose **None**, the image will display as quickly as possible.

Delay & Grain

These options control how fast the images are displayed on your screen in conjunction with the special effects.   The lower you set the **Delay** the quicker the effect will appear.   The higher you set the **Grain**, the quicker (but more "blocky") the effect will occur.

Defaults Button

If you mess things up, you can always choose the **Defaults** button to reset everything to the

factory defined settings.

New Game Screen

Name

Type your name into this box.   This will be the name that appears in the High Scores list if you achieve a high enough score.   Your score is reset to zero whenever the name in this box is changed.

Level to Play

Click on this box in order to select which Level to play.   Each level contains a number of words and pictures.   They are grouped by category and/or skill level.

Number of Questions

Use the up and down spinner buttons to select how many questions will be asked of you for this round.

Maximum Tries

This item allows you to select how many wrong answers you can enter before the word is spelled out for you.

Options Button

This brings up the Game Options Screen.   It contains advanced items for controlling the display speed, effects and other technical issues.   This is the same as choosing Game Options from the Edit menu.

Report Card

The Report Card Screen shows you a summary of how you performed during the last round.   It provides you with a list of words that you had difficulty with, and allows you to print out a copy of the report for practice and future reference.

Choose the ***Print Report*** button in order to get a printed copy of the report.   The ***Continue*** button takes you to the next screen without printing the report.

View Menu

The view menu has one selection, allowing you to view the High Scores:

High Scores

Brings up a list of the top seven scores and player names of all time.

Help Menu

The Help Menu has a number of sections, as follows:

Contents

Brings up a list of major help topics you can choose from.

Ordering Multimedia Spelling Bee

Brings up information pertaining to the ordering of *Multimedia Spelling Bee*.

Ordering Data Disks

Brings up information pertaining to the ordering of data disks.

About

Displays information on the program name and version, as well as ordering information.

Ordering Information

What do you get when you order?

When you order Multimedia Spelling Bee, you will receive the following:

Professionally bound and printed manual!

Multimedia Spelling Bee program disk with the latest revisions and enhancements!

More great levels, grouped by skill level, with 200 words including pictures and sounds!

Free technical support by phone, fax, email and BBS!

Advance notice of future related products and upgrade notices!

Special discount pricing on future related products and upgrades!

Free access to our Worldgroup BBS Online Service!

Pricing

Multimedia Spelling Bee is available for the special low price of only $34.95. Multiple copy and site license discounts are available. Please call for more information. **Please note that all prices are listed in US dollars and are subject to change without notice.**

Special Offers

When ordering Multimedia Spelling Bee, you can purchase additional data disks for a special low price of only $9.95 each or three for only $19.95! Each data disk contains 50 or more words with pictures and sounds. At the time this document was written, there were three data disks available, "The Test 1 - Student"", "The Test 2 - Scholar" and "The Test 3 - Genius". For a current list, please call!

Shipping

The shipping and handling charge per unit via Air Mail delivery is as follows:
Canada $3.00
USA $5.00
International $6.50

The shipping and handling charge per unit via Federal Express Courier is as follows:
Canada $10.00
USA $20.00
International   Call for pricing.

Payment Methods

You may pay for your order using any of the following methods. Please note that all credit card orders will be processed in Canadian funds at the current US-Canadian exchange rate. Your credit card statement will show the correct amount in your local currency:
VISA Card
American Express Card
Government agencies, educational institutions and Fortune 1000 companies may pay by Purchase Order Net 30.
A cheque drawn on a Canadian or US bank. International cheques can not be accepted due to processing fees.
An international money order or bank draft.

How to Order

You may order Setup Factory using any of the following methods:

Mail your order form with your payment to: **Indigo Rose Corporation, PO Box 2281, Winnipeg MB, Canada R3C 4A6.**
Fax your completed order form to: **(204) 661-6904**.
Canadian and US customers, have your credit card information ready and call our toll-free order line at: **1-800-665-9668.**   International customers, please call **(204) 668-8180.**

For a convenient ordering form...
Order Form

Ordering Data Disks

Indigo Rose Corporation offers data disks to enhance your fun and learning with *Multimedia Spelling Bee*.   Each data disk is jam packed full of great new levels containing pictures, sounds and words.   Data disks are available to any registered user of *Multimedia Spelling Bee* for only $9.95 each or three for $19.95.   To find out the data disk titles available or to order more data disks all you have to do is contact:

Indigo Rose Corporation
P.O. Box 2281
Winnipeg, MB
Canada R3C 4A6

Phone: (204) 668-8180
FAX: (204) 661-6904
Orders: (800) 665-9668

For VISA or American Express credit card orders, call: 1-800-665-9668.   All credit card orders will be processed in Canadian Dollars at the current US-Canadian exchange rate.   Your credit card statement will show the correct amount in your local currency.

Disclaimer of Liability

This is a legal agreement between you, the end user, and Indigo Rose Software Design Corporation (hereafter "The Company").   By using Multimedia Spelling Bee (hereafter "The Software"), you are agreeing to become bound by the terms of this agreement.   If you do not agree to the terms of this agreement, promptly return the disk(s) and the accompanying items (including written material and binders or other containers) to the place you obtained them for refund.

The Company does not warrant that the functions contained in The Software will meet your requirements or that the operation of The Software will be uninterrupted or error-free.   The Software is provided as-is without warranty of any kind either expressed or implied, including but not limited to the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. You assume entire risk as it applies to the quality of The Software.   In no event shall The Company or its suppliers be liable for any damages whatsoever (including, without limitation, damages for loss of   business profits, business interruption, loss of business information, or other pecuniary loss) arising out of the use of or inability to use this product, even if The Company or its suppliers have been advised of the possibility of such damages.

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Order Form - MMSB 053195

The following is an order form you can use when ordering Multimedia Spelling Bee.   To print the order form, Choose Print Topic from the File Menu   Don't worry if the order form looks messy on your screen - it should still print out looking fine! **Please note that all prices are in US currency**.

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

_____

City: _____ State: _____

Country:_____Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Shipping Method (circle one):   Air Mail   Federal Express

Multimedia Spelling Bee: _____ ($34.95/each)

Additional Data Disk(s): _____ ($9.95/each or 3 for $19.95)

Shipping Costs: _____

Subtotal: _____

7% GST (Canadian residents) _____

7% PST (Manitoba residents) _____

Total: _____ (US $)

Credit Card Information (if applicable):

Card Type (circle one):   VISA   *American Express*

Cardholder's name: _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Signature of Cardholder: _____
Cardholder will pay total amount shown to card issuer according to cardholder agreement with card issuer.

Mail Order to: Indigo Rose Corporation, PO Box 2281, Winnipeg MB, Canada R3C 4A6
Phone: (800) 665-9668 (Canada & US) or (204) 668-8180,   Fax: (204) 661-6904