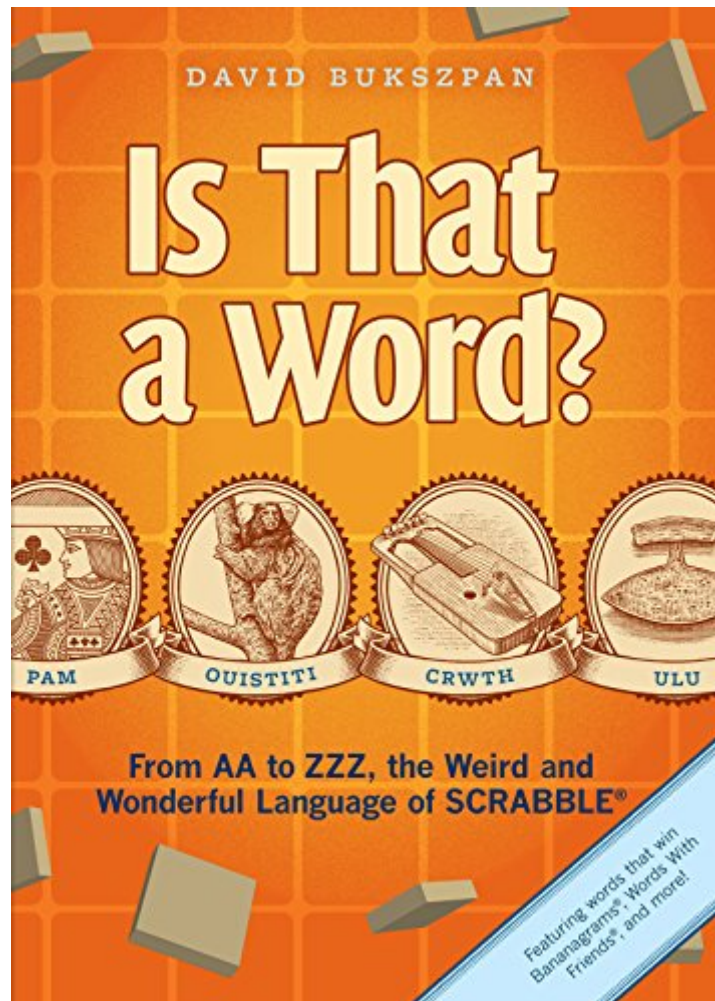


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# Is That A Word?: From AA To ZZZ, The Weird And Wonderful Language Of SCRABBLE



## Synopsis

Scrabble® aficionados may know that both "Brr" and "Brrr" are legitimate plays, but what about everyday names like Peter, Carl, and Marge? They're not listed as proper nouns, but they are certainly playable. For lovers of Scrabble®, Bananagrams®, and Words with Friends®, this lively guide helps readers make the most out of word games, packed with new ways to remember the best words alongside tips for improving game play and much more. Part strategy guide and part celebration of all things wordy, this collection of facts, tips, and surprising lists of playable words will instruct and delight the letterati.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

To begin with, to point out the obvious, the book was published in 2012 and thus does not cover anything in or about the Official Scrabble Players' Dictionary, Fifth Edition, published a year ago in August, 2014. I bought this as a \$1.99 "deal," and when I'd read the first part of it, I emailed a friend saying "I think you'd like this, grab it at the bargain price." Now I feel as if I gave her a bum steer. Everyone likes different things, of course, but I think it's a shame that doesn't give a "Look Inside

the Book" on this one. You really need to decide whether you are interested in the last 3/4 of the book. The first part, Part 1, "The Story of Scrabble and Beyond," amounts to 25% of the book. I liked it. It has a lot of information on game history, history of the rival word lists and dictionaries. It has interesting observations, comments, and criticism of the word choices and definitions in "The Official Scrabble Players' Dictionary." It has some interesting records--words with maximum possible scores and such--and historical curiosa ("the lowest winning score ever is currently held by Helena Gauthier, who bet her opponent -9 to -11.") Part 2 of the book is nothing more than Bukszpan's compilations of themed groups of what he thinks are interesting Scrabble words. Yiddish Scrabble words, Scrabble words that are synonyms for "ghosts," Scrabble words that are names for different kinds of wind, and on and on and on and on and on. I was not charmed by his efforts to string some of these word collections together to give amusing usage examples: "At the next [Scrabble] table is some schlemiel who's schlepped his schlock in with him," etc.

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