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Excerpt
More information

1 There's a lesson in that

1 Read a story by Aesop

A Sort the words according to how many syllables they have.

fathom enormous corn sustenance flies industrious chirrup liberally baffled teased guffawed melody grasshopper ant

Tip

A syllable is a word or part of a word that has one beat:
car – car|ry – ca|ra|mel



Remember, some letters aren't stressed at the end of words like the suffix **ed**.

1 syllable	2 syllables	3 syllables	4 syllables

B Breaking words into syllables can help you spell and pronounce them correctly. Choose a syllable to complete the words below.

por rac ti vi ping thar
der ing fi mea ful ri

Tip

Each syllable contains only one vowel sound. Syllables often split two consonants: *car|ry, ban|jo.*

stop _____ un _____ stand dif _____ cult

_____ dow pro _____ sion gather _____

glo _____ ous con _____ nued wist _____ ly

cha _____ ter le _____ gic im _____ tant

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C Use your dictionary to check the meaning of any of the words on page 4 that you did not know. Add them to your word book.

D Write notes on a story that you think is a fable. Use the fable features to guide you.

Fable features

- Fables are short stories.
- The characters usually have human characteristics.
- The main point is a moral lesson one of the characters learns.
- We can learn from the story's lesson as well.

Main characters: _____

Story title: _____

Setting: _____

Plot summary:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

E Use the notes to summarise your fable in a paragraph with a topic sentence.

_____

_____

2 Check your understanding

A Choose synonyms from the word bank and write them in the correct place in the thesaurus below.

B Think of an antonym (a word opposite in meaning) and add it at the end of each entry.

beam smirk dash sneer drowse grimace scuttle doze sob race howl
kip bawl wail flee lope blub giggle snivel titter whimper dart jog
chuckle hibernate hoot bound snigger cackle chortle weep guffaw
slumber grin nap snooze catnap sprint simper stampede rest snicker

Thesaurus

run *v.* _____

_____

_____ antonym: _____

sleep *v.* _____

_____

_____ antonym: _____

laugh *v.* _____

_____

_____ antonym: _____

smile *v.* _____

_____

_____ antonym: _____

cry *v.* _____

_____ antonym: _____

C Choose one verb and order its synonym verbs according to intensity.

_____

D Write a sentence using at least one synonym from each word.

_____

E Circle the best word to fit both sentences in each pair.

1 The ball hit me straight in the ____ .

I tried to thread the cotton through the ____ of the needle.

head eye face end

2 You will have to ____ your voice to be heard over the shouting.

We should try to ____ money for this charity by selling cakes.

head collect raise keep

3 Use your ____ to draw a straight line under the heading.

Who is the ____ of this land?

head king keeper ruler



Have you ever noticed that some words just go together, like driving (not forceful) rain, rosy (not red) cheeks, even once (not one time) upon a time? Why is lion ____ of the jungle not the czar, sultan or president of the jungle?

3 Story features

A Give Ant and Grasshopper a new personality by finding an antonym for each adjective in their character profiles.

Tip

Synonyms are words with a similar meaning; **antonyms** mean the opposite.

practical
Antonym: impractical

irresponsible
Antonym: _____

sensible
Antonym: _____

carefree
Antonym: _____

bossy
Antonym: _____





cheerful
Antonym: gloomy

optimistic
Antonym: _____

busy
Antonym: _____

serious
Antonym: _____

thoughtless
Antonym: _____

B Write a sentence to describe each character's new personality.

Ant: _____

Grasshopper: _____

4 What about my point of view?

Language focus

Stories are written in first or third person narrative.
First person narrative: a character tells the story as well as being in it.
Third person narrative: an outsider tells the story but is not part of it.

A Complete each sentence describing the action in the picture.

First person
I …

_____
_____
_____



Third person
Ant …

_____
_____
_____

B Complete these sentences using personal pronouns. Use each pronoun once.

them I me she us her
they my we she them



1 When _____ get up _____ mum makes _____ eat breakfast. _____ says _____ should all eat healthily before school because good food gives _____ brain power!
2 Mrs Sisulu wakes _____ family every morning and prepares a healthy breakfast for _____ . _____ thinks _____ need breakfast because it will give _____ brain food.

C Write a paragraph about something you did at the weekend. Write in first person.

_____
_____
_____

5 Proverbs tell a tale

A Draw a line to match each proverb to its meaning.

Practice makes perfect.	Think carefully before you do or say something.
Look before you leap.	Making a little effort now will save a lot of effort later.
A stitch in time saves nine.	It's no good worrying about something that has already happened.
Great oaks from little acorns grow.	It is easy to forget something if you can't see it.
It's no use crying over spilt milk.	All great things start small.
Out of sight, out of mind.	Doing something over and over again is how to learn to do something well.

B Fill in the missing word to complete these proverbs..

1 Don't put all your _____ in one basket.

2 The early bird catches the _____ .

3 The proof of the pudding is in the _____ .

4 Birds of a _____ flock together.

5 You cannot have your _____ and eat it too.

C At home, ask members of your family about any proverbs they know or that are traditional in your country or region. Make a note of them and what they mean. Then write each one on a card with the meaning on the back. Play a game in class by challenging each other to explain what your proverbs mean.

6 A twist in the traditional tale

A Below is the middle of a story based on one of Aesop's Fables.

- Decide on the lesson your story will teach.
- Write the opening in two or three sentences to set the scene.
- Decide how the story ends and write the ending.
- Add a title for the story that explains the lesson.



Title explaining the lesson in the story:

One day ...

A mother crab told her baby crab that he must learn to walk straight because when he walked sideways he couldn't see where he was going. But the baby crab told his mother that he copied everything she did. So ...

Illustrate your story:

7 It's all about dialogue

Language focus

Punctuating speech

Start a new line when a new person speaks.
Put speech marks before and after the spoken words.
Capitalise the first word inside the speech marks.
Notice how the commas are used before or after the words spoken.
"Walk straight not sideways," said Mother Crab.
Baby Crab replied, "I do what you do!"

A Add the missing speech marks to these sentences.

1 You can't see where you are going, laughed Mother Crab.

2 Baby Crab asked, Will you teach me to walk straight?

3 I am better than Starfish, who can't walk at all! protested Baby Crab.

4 Baby Crab poked Starfish and demanded, How do you move around?

5 Oh dear! cried Mother Crab. How will I manage to teach you?

B Rewrite this paragraph setting out the dialogue correctly.

I don't need to walk smiled Starfish. Why not asked Baby Crab. Starfish wriggled and giggled saying I don't need to go anywhere so I wait for the waves to take me.

_____

_____

_____

_____

C Rewrite the middle of the crab fable using dialogue rather than narrative. Use the actual words that each character might have said in the dialogue.

A mother crab told her baby crab that he must learn to walk straight because when he walked sideways he couldn't see where he was going. But the baby crab told his mother that he copied everything she did.

"You must ...

8 Figurative language

A What do these expressions mean? Read the expressions and fill in the missing words.

1 to turn over a new _____

2 a fish _____ of water

3 a _____ off the old block

4 a taste of your own _____

5 as _____ as a hatter

medicine
leaf
mad
chip
out

B Draw a picture for each expression to show what it means literally.

1

2

3

4

5