

Awesome Adjective Activities

A Guide for Parents to Support Children's Understanding of Adjectives in Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and Year 2)

As your child's confidence in writing increases, they will begin to learn about adjectives. An adjective is a word that describes a noun:

the **beautiful** butterfly

a **tasty** meal

sunny Spain

Use these games and activities to help your child learn how to use adjectives, both in their spoken language and in their writing.

Read, read, read! Sharing books together is the most powerful way for children to learn about language, spelling, grammar and punctuation.

Go on an adjective hunt. As you share a book, see how many adjectives you can spot. Talk about the effect of the adjectives in helping to build a picture in the reader's mind.

Family photos. Find a selection of photos of your family and friends. Take it in turns to describe someone in the family using a limited number of adjectives - perhaps three or four. Can your partner guess who you are describing?

Be a collector. Label five or six sheets of paper with basic adjectives such as 'nice', 'happy', 'sad', 'big', 'angry' - you choose. Then, write on the list all the adjectives you can think of that could be used instead. Whenever you come across an adjective that could go on one of your lists, add it. This could happen when you are reading, talking or even watching a TV show or listening to a song.

Mystery objects. Lay out a selection of small objects from around your home. Take it in turns to choose an item (without showing which one you have chosen) and describe it to your partner using only three adjectives. Can they guess your mystery object?

Famous faces. Collect a selection of pictures of well-known people - or just write their names on a piece of paper. Take it in turns to pick one of the celebrities and describe him or her in only three adjectives. Can your partner guess who you are describing?

I-Spy. Instead of using the familiar '... something beginning with...', try saying, 'I spy with my little eye something that is _____ and _____', inserting two adjectives as clues.

Adjective swap. Find a great adjective in a story you are sharing. Think about another adjective you could use instead. What effect does this have? Think about opposites as well - how does the description of a place or character change if we use 'opposite' adjectives?