

Collins Dictionary Skills

For ages 3+

Barry and Anita Scholes

Collins

Collins Dictionary Skills for Ages 3+

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Introduction

Collins Dictionary Skills

Collins Dictionary Skills provide all-in-one support for developing dictionary skills. Each Skills book provides:

- photocopiable activity sheets, differentiated for a wide range of abilities
- clear teaching notes and answers

Collins Dictionaries — for children aged 2 to 11+

Developed in consultation with teachers, children’s lexicographers, educational advisors and literacy, numeracy and science specialists, these clear, colourful dictionaries have been written and designed to support today’s Primary classroom requirements.

Collins Children’s Dictionaries are carefully streamlined to provide a dictionary for each key level of literacy development. Because Collins’ range of dictionaries progressively builds skills, children will be able to move confidently between levels and become independent dictionary users.

Children need to acquire the ability to use a dictionary successfully and independently. Collins Children’s Dictionaries have been designed to provide all the support that children need by means of:

- clear, easy-to-use design
- child-oriented definitions and examples
- progressive building of key skills as children move from level to level.

The Collins Children’s Dictionary range:

- *builds essential dictionary skills* progressively, step by step, from beginner to advanced
- supports *today’s curriculum needs* from the Early Years upwards
- incorporates special features to *encourage independent learning*, such as annotated introductions, theme pages, grammar help, word banks and word histories
- has been *rigorously researched and trialled* with teachers and pupils
- has been compiled by a team of experts.

About *Collins Dictionary Skills for ages 3+*

Activity sheets

The activity sheets help you to use the *Collins First School Dictionary* as an active literacy resource. They provide a wide range of activities to help Y1 and Y2 (P2 and P3) children develop basic dictionary skills. They give you, the teacher, a variety of strategies to support literacy objectives.

The activity sheets are also suitable as a focus for class teaching, for use with a small group, or for individual work in class or at home. The range of activities enables you to select appropriate activity sheets to meet the needs of individual children.

The activity sheets are grouped in six sections:

Using a dictionary

Activity sheet 1 helps children to understand the functions of a dictionary.

Alphabetical order

Activity sheets 2 to 7 support children in gaining alphabet skills, reinforce these skills and give practice in finding words in the dictionary.

Dictionary organization

Activity sheets 8 to 10 cover the alphabetic listing of headwords and other information provided in the dictionary, such as synonyms and antonyms.

Spelling

Activity sheets 11 to 20 show how a dictionary can be used to check spelling. They cover rhyming words, vowel phonemes, compound words and plurals. Activity sheet 20 encourages the use of the Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check strategy.

Dictionary games and quizzes

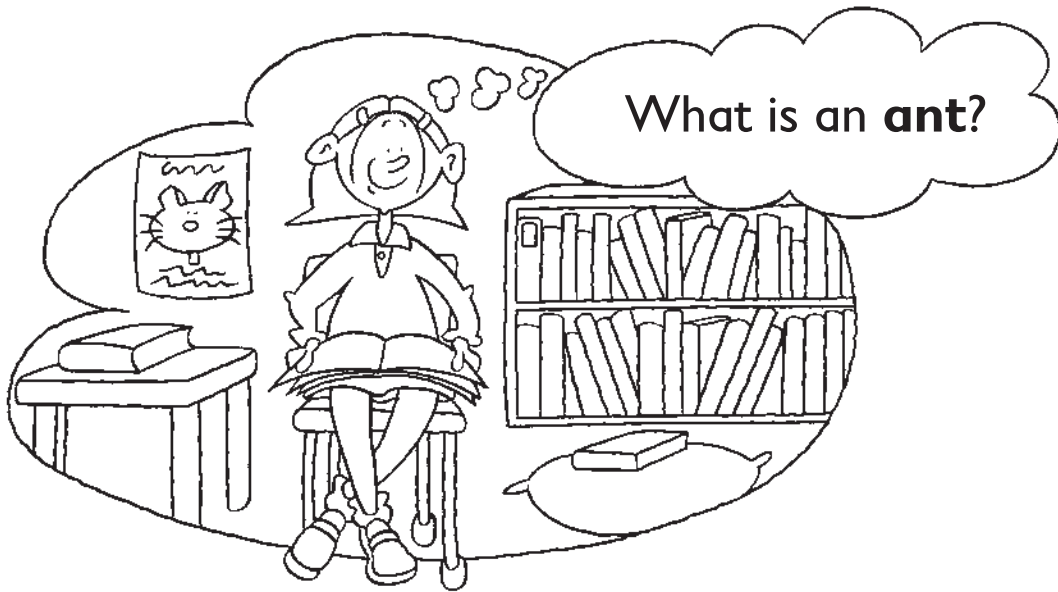
Activity sheets 21 to 26 offer a variety of dictionary games and quizzes to consolidate the children's understanding of the various functions of a dictionary.

Word banks

Activity sheets 27 and 28 encourage the children to collect and classify in groups words of special interest. Activity sheet 28 may be used at any time that word banks are explored.



What is a dictionary?



A dictionary is a book that lists words in alphabetical order. It tells you how to spell them and what they mean.

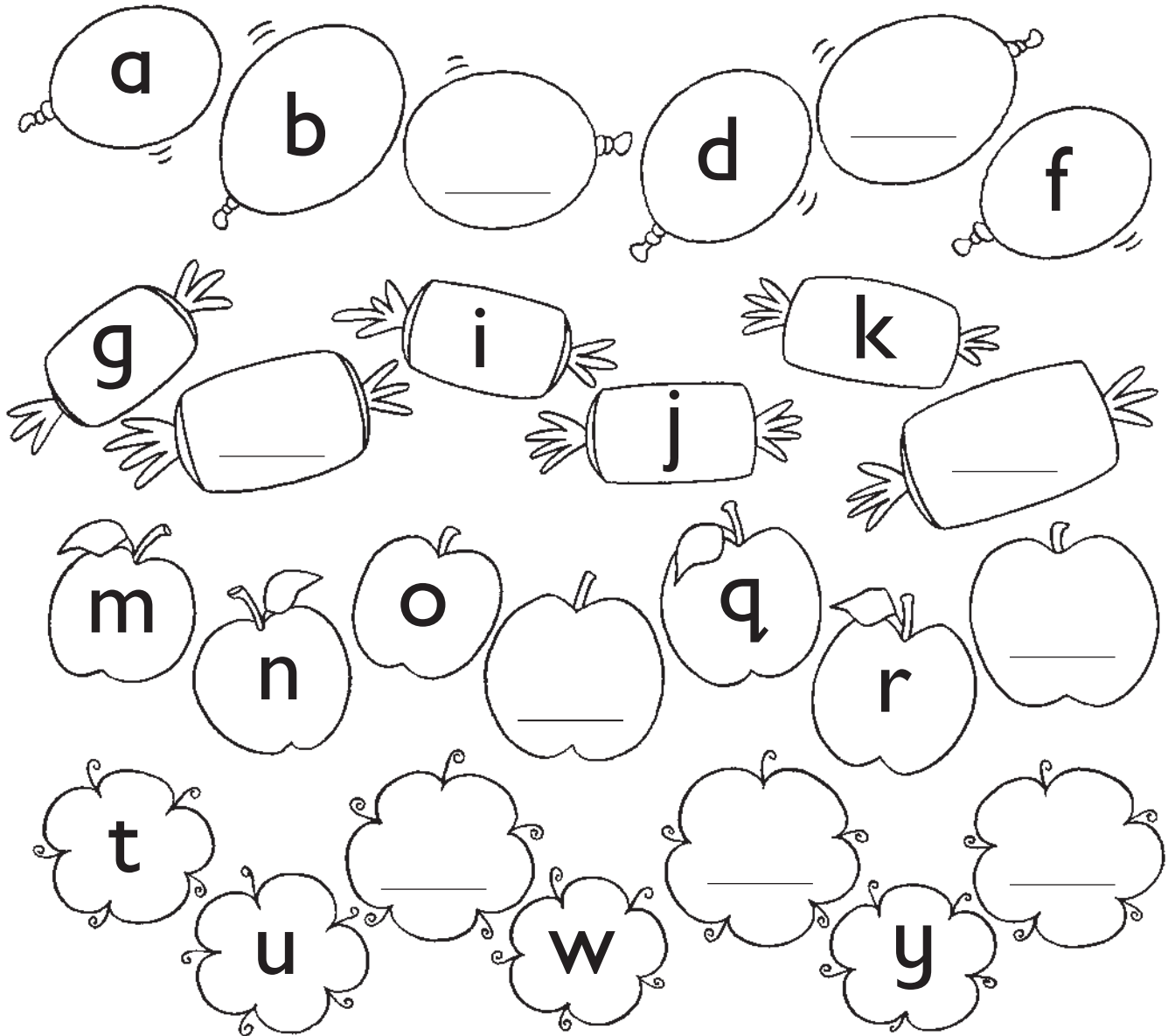
Alphabetical order

1. What letter does the word **ant** begin with? _____
2. What is the last letter in the word **fish**? _____
3. What is last letter in the word **neat**? _____
4. What letter does the word **dream** begin with? _____
5. What is last letter in the word **buzz**? _____



The alphabet

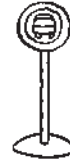
1. Fill in the missing letters of the alphabet.



2. Write the alphabet here.

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

Alphabetical order



1. Write each missing letter.

e f g ____

l m n ____

____ r s t

____ v w x

b ____ d e

h i ____ k

m ____ o p

2. Write the letter which comes **after** each letter below:

k ____

w ____

t ____

h ____

p ____

e ____

c ____

i ____

r ____

u ____

3. Write the letter which comes **before** each letter below:

____ c

____ m

____ j

____ y

____ g

____ v

____ f

____ x

____ o

____ t

4. Write the letter which comes **between** the two letters below:

b and d ____

n and p ____

f and h ____

v and x ____

k and m ____

x and z ____

s and u ____

p and r ____

h and j ____

t and v ____

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z



Alphabet fun

1. Put these groups of letters into alphabetical order.

c b e d

i h g j

p n q m o

w z x v y

2. Do the same with these.

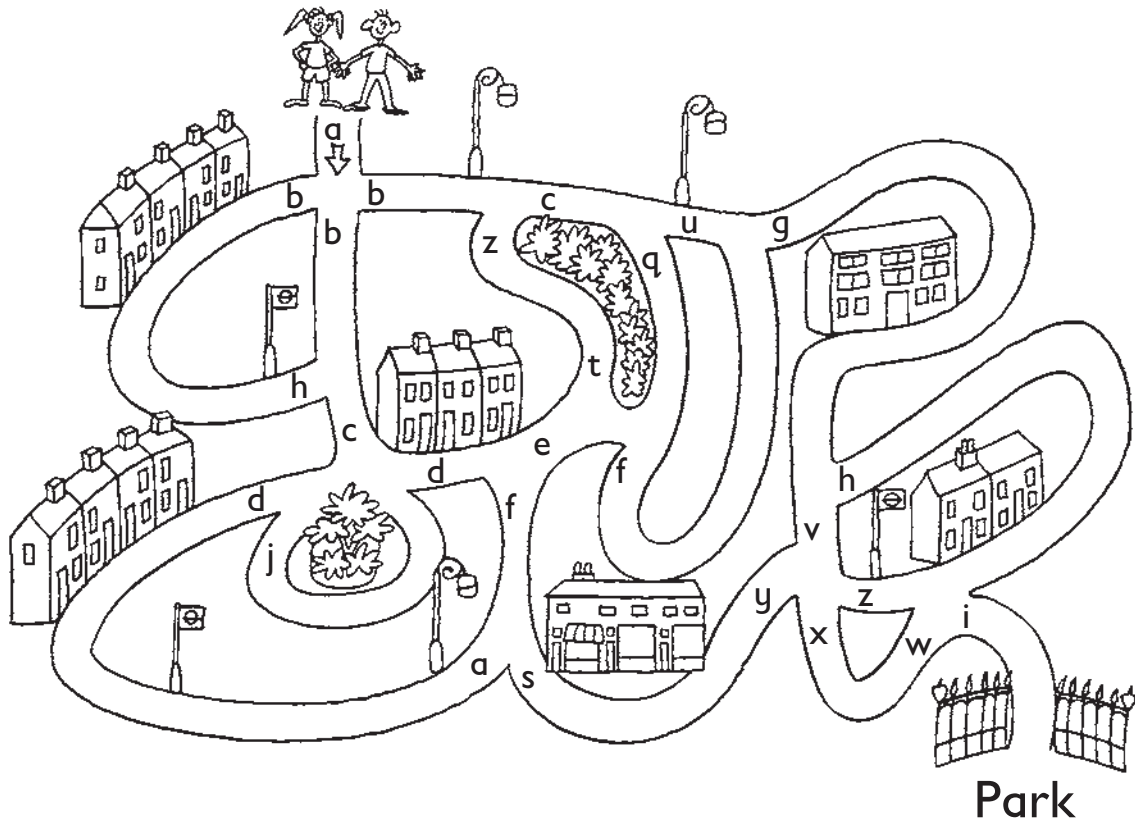
f c b g

t s v q

k h m i

v t p w

3. Which way do Li and Sam go to get to the park?
Follow the letters in alphabetical order to find out.



a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z



Alphabetical order: the first letter (1)

1. Put a ring round the first letter of each of these words.



camel



bear



alligator

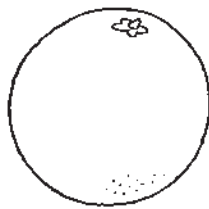
Now put the words in alphabetical order. The first one has been done for you.

alligator _____

2. Do the same for these words, on each line.



lemon



orange



apple



peach



scarf



jeans



hat



tie

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

Alphabetical order: the first letter (2)



Write each row of words in alphabetical order.



1.

piano

guitar

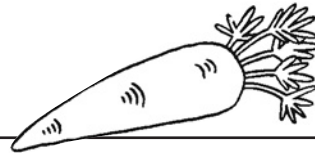
drum

2.

rice

carrot

egg



3.

doctor

teacher

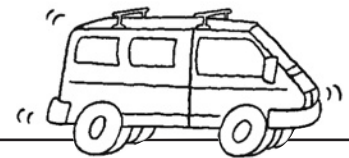
nurse

4.

truck

car

van



5.

hospital

school

factory

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z



Colour word search

1. There are seven colour words hidden in this soap bubble. Can you find them?

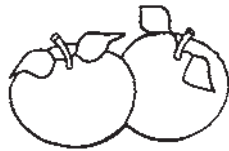


y	e	l	l	o	w
a	t	o	e	r	h
b	g	c	s	a	i
l	r	e	d	n	t
u	e	d	u	g	e
e	e	n	g	e	e
v	n	p	i	n	k

2. Write the colours you found.

3. Now put the colours you found into alphabetical order.

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z



A to Z



The words in a dictionary are sorted into alphabetical order. Words starting with **a** come first, then those starting with **b**, then **c** and so on.

1. Can you think of a word that begins with the letter **a**? _____

2. Can you think of a word that begins with the letter **z**? _____

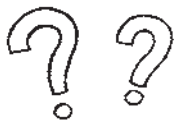
3. Can you think of a word that begins with each of the letters below?



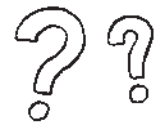
b	k	m	p	v	y
---	---	---	---	---	---



4. Can you think of a word that begins with each of the letters below?



c	d	j	o	r	w
---	---	---	---	---	---



a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

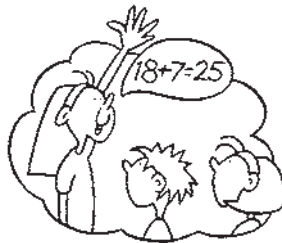


Similar

A **synonym** is a word that means the same or almost the same as another word.

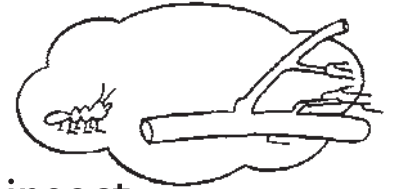
1. Find a suitable synonym for each phrase. The first one has been done for you.

a correct reply



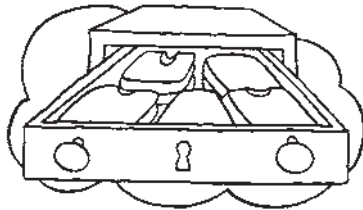
a correct _____ answer _____

a tiny insect



a _____ insect

a tidy drawer



a _____ drawer

an unhappy girl



a _____ girl

2. Write a word which means the same or almost the same as each of these words.

afraid _____

fast _____

yell _____

cook _____



Different

An **antonym** is a word that means the opposite of another word.

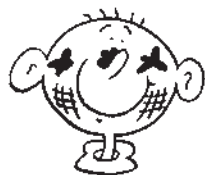
1. Write an antonym, or opposite, of the words below.

soft _____ dark _____

narrow _____ quiet _____

few _____ outside _____

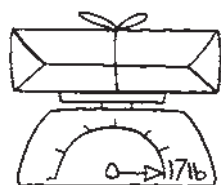
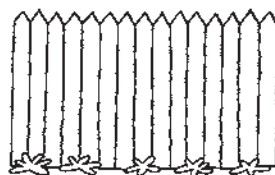
2. Write the antonyms that describe the pictures below.
The first one has been done for you.



dirty



clean





Anagrams

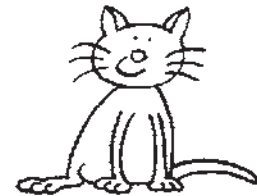
Rearrange the letters to spell the word for each picture. Check the spelling in your dictionary. Write the page number.



pea



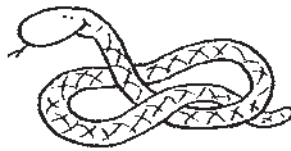
flow



act



flea



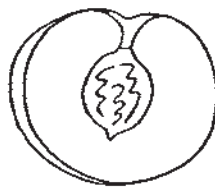
sneak



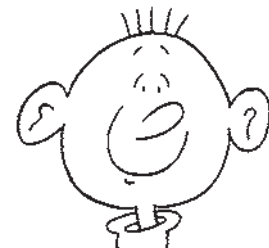
sent



reap



cheap



cafe

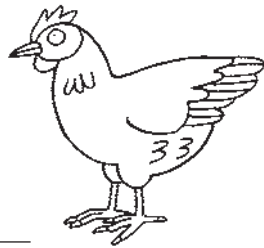


Rhyme time (1)

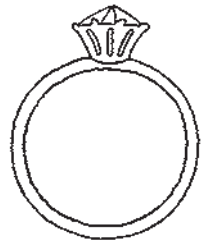
Words which **rhyme** often have the same letters at the end.

Write a rhyming word for each word below. Use the picture clues to help you.

pen



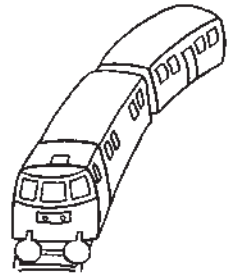
sing



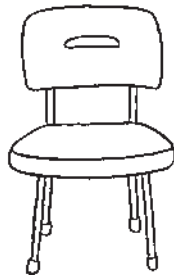
rock



pain



fair



sold

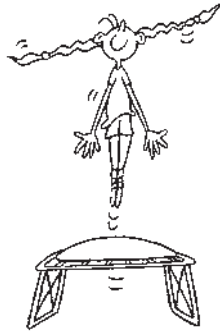




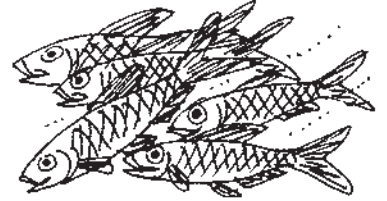
Rhyme time (2)

Write a rhyming word for each word below. Use the picture clues to help you.

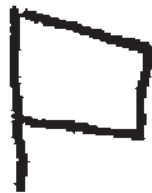
lump



dish



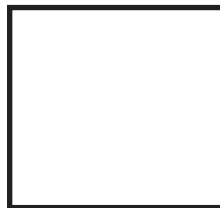
bag



damp



stare



toy

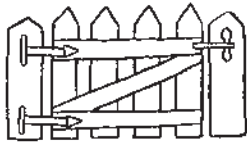




The right spelling (1)

Long a

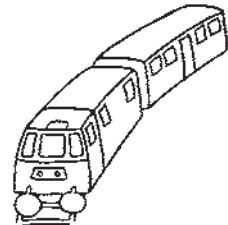
1. Put **ai**, **ay** or **a-e** in the spaces below. Check the spellings in your dictionary if you can.



g _ t _



pl _ _ _



tr _ _ _ n

Long e

2. Put **ee** or **ea** in the spaces below. Check the spellings in your dictionary if you can.



l _ _ f



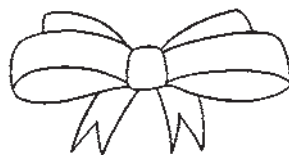
tr _ _ _

Long o

3. Put **oa**, **ow** or **o-e** in the spaces below. Check the spellings in your dictionary if you can.



b _ _ t



b _ _ _



The right spelling (2)

Long i

1. Put **ie**, **i-e**, **igh** or **y** in the spaces below. Check the spellings in your dictionary if you can.



cr__



b__t__



l_____

It goes h_____ in the sk_____.

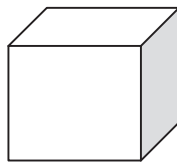


Long u

2. Put **oo**, **u-e**, **ew** or **ue** in the spaces below. Check the spellings in your dictionary if you can.



m_____n



c__b__

Use gl_____ to stick things together.





Building words

Sometimes two short words can be put together to make a longer word.



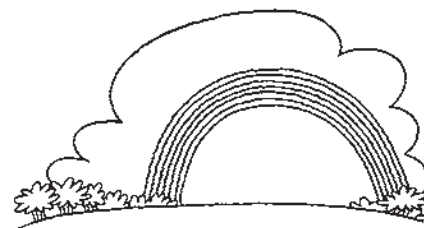
rain

+



bow

=



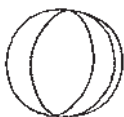
rainbow

1. Make a long word from these words.



foot

+



ball

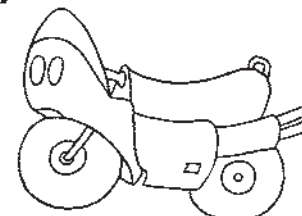
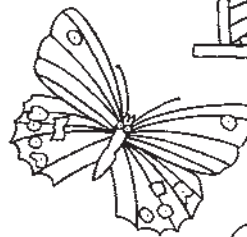
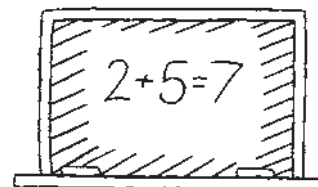
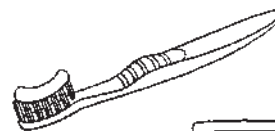
=



2. Match up these short words to make longer words.

class
black
door
motor
play
tooth
earth
thunder
news
butter

board
storm
room
quake
brush
paper
fly
bike
ground
bell

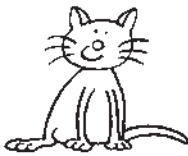




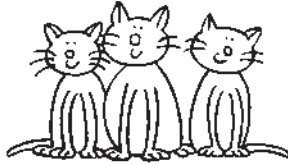
More than one

Singular means one person or thing.

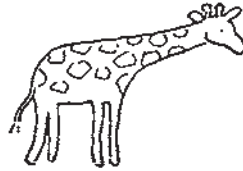
Plural means more than one.



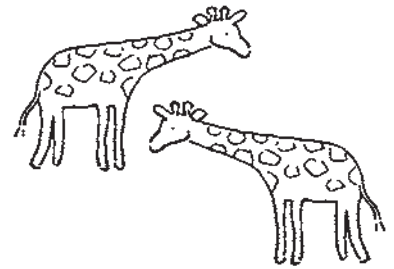
One **cat**



Three **cats**



One **giraffe**



Two **giraffes**

When you look up the word for something, your dictionary gives you the singular and plural of it.

Write the plurals of the words below.

word	plural
father	
hut	
lizard	
knee	
oven	
pencil	
room	
shoe	
hole	
storm	

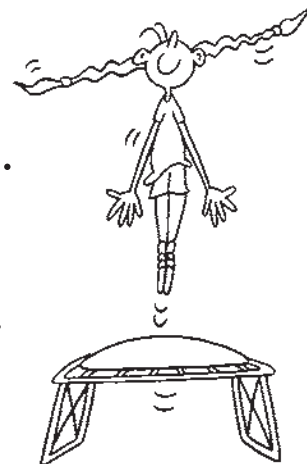


Verbs

Verbs are words that say what is happening or being done.

Verbs have different forms.

I jump. She jumps. He is **jumping**. We **jumped**.



Write the different forms for the verbs below.

The first one has been done for you.

1. smile smiles smiling smiled

2. bury _____ _____ _____

3. walk _____ _____ _____

4. carry _____ _____ _____

5. laugh _____ _____ _____

6. cry _____ _____ _____

7. hurry _____ _____ _____

8. dive _____ _____ _____

9. slip _____ _____ _____

10. bark _____ _____ _____



Adjectives

Adjectives are words that tell you more about a person or thing.

A **happy** baby

an **ancient** castle

Find eight adjectives in the word search below.

h	e	w	f	l	a	z	y
m	x	o	d	d	l	b	c
o	c	r	s	c	a	k	l
z	i	j	o	d	r	i	e
e	t	l	f	n	g	v	a
t	e	g	t	y	e	u	n
a	d	p	g	i	w	e	t
f	r	i	e	n	d	l	y

Sounds similar (1)

In some words the same sound is spelled differently.

The clown blew the trumpet loudly.



Write the correct spelling for these words.

1. ow and ou



cl____d



cr____d



sh____t

2. oi and oy



b____l



b_____



c____n

3. oo and u



b____k

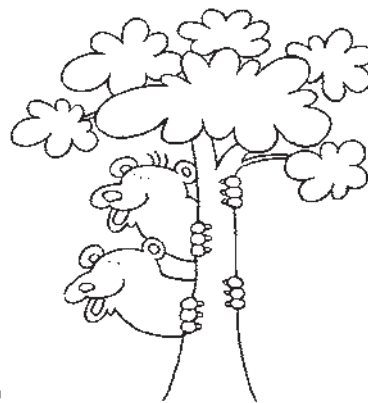


p____sh

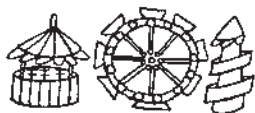
Sounds similar (1)

All these words have the same sound but are spelled differently.

A pair of bears gave Tom a scare over there.



Complete these words with the correct spelling:
air, ear, are or ere.



1. f _____

p _____

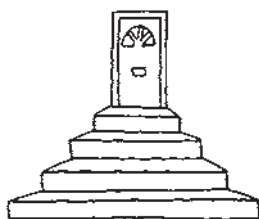
sh _____

2. Did you t _____ this dress?



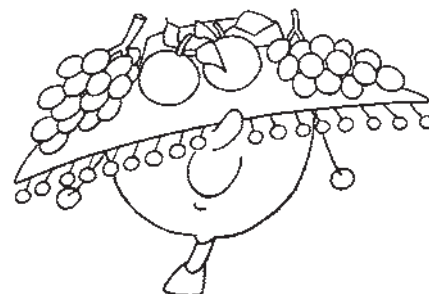
3. It is rude to st _____.

4. Her h _____ was very long.



5. Take c _____. The st _____ s
are steep

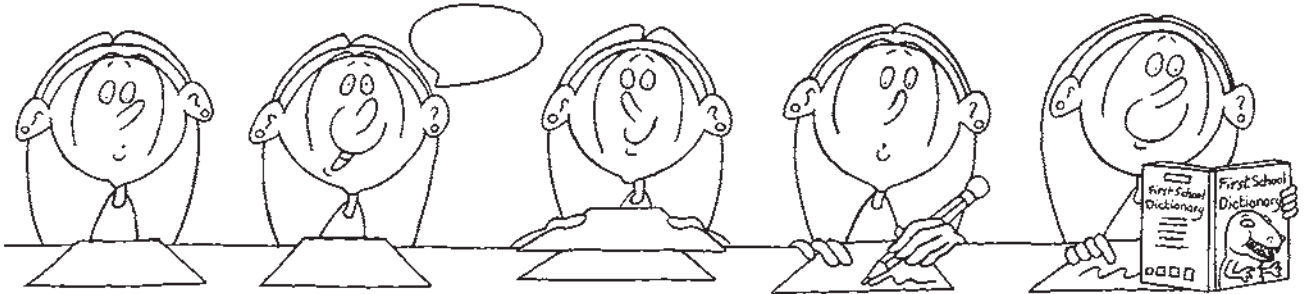
6. Wh _____ will you w _____
that hat?





Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check

Use the Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check method to learn how to spell difficult words.



Look
at the
word

Say
the word
out loud

Cover
the word

Write
the word

Check
the word

If you spell the word wrong, use Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check to try again.

Look, Say, Cover	Write	Check	Try again	Check
difficult	dificult	×	difficult	✓
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____



Word fun

Read the clues and complete this crossword.

1. something that grows out of a tree trunk
2. the middle part of your arm which bends
3. something used for measuring or for drawing straight lines
4. two times
5. the time when it is dark and most people sleep
6. the day of the week between Thursday and Saturday
7. something that has been done wrong
8. a women who has a child
9. a person who is this can lift heavy things

	1	b					
	2						
	3	r					
	4						
	5	n					
6	f						
	7	m					
			8	m			
	9	s					



What animal's name can you find? _____

Alphabet code

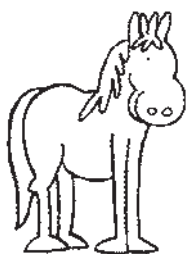
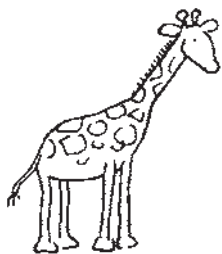
Write the words in alphabetical order to read the message.

tomorrow for Zoe drinks picnic our Bring

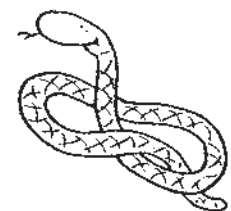


Animal word search

The names of six animals are hidden in this word search. Find them and write their names. Use the picture clues to help you.



h	o	r	s	e	e	r	t
l	h	a	w	s	l	e	r
s	n	a	k	e	e	n	g
n	m	y	r	j	p	w	i
w	p	i	n	c	k	s	r
i	l	i	o	n	a	y	a
l	n	l	g	u	l	v	f
f	z	x	d	a	t	d	f
x	e	y	b	e	a	r	e
z	e	b	r	a	m	s	e





Weather

1. What is the weather in these pictures?



r _____



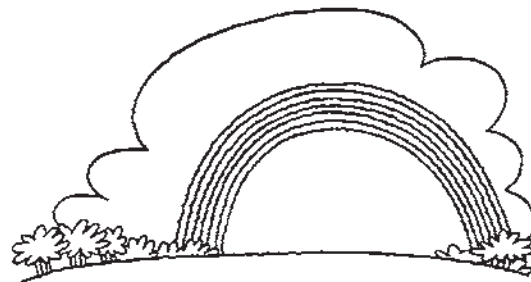
s _____



s _____



w _____



r _____



Quiz time (1)

Write the correct words.

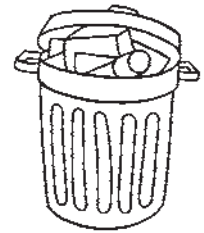
1. a large group of soldiers **a** _____



2. a vehicle that travels across water **b** _____

3. a baby bird **c** _____

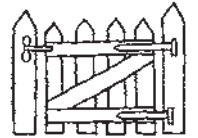
4. a large metal or plastic container for rubbish **d** _____



5. a green jewel **e** _____

6. the second month of the year **F** _____

7. a kind of door in a fence or wall **g** _____



8. a sweet, sticky food made by bees **h** _____

9. a strong, hard, grey metal **i** _____

10. a container for holding liquids **j** _____



11. a toy that you fly in the air **k** _____

12. a large wild animal **l** _____



13. the part of your face that you use for speaking and eating **m** _____



Quiz time (2)

Write the correct words.



1. the time when it is dark **n** _____
2. a white vegetable with a strong taste **o** _____
3. a small, round stone **p** _____
4. a women who rules a country **q** _____
5. things that you throw away **r** _____
6. somewhere that you sit **s** _____
7. an animal like a large frog **t** _____
8. the brother of your mother or father **u** _____
9. someone who looks after sick animals **v** _____
10. a hole in the wall that lets light in **w** _____
11. a photograph of the inside of your body **x** _____
12. the yellow part in the middle of an egg **y** _____
13. a line that bends suddenly up and down **z** _____





Word ladder (1)

Change one letter in each word below to make a new word. Use the clues to help you.

l a n d

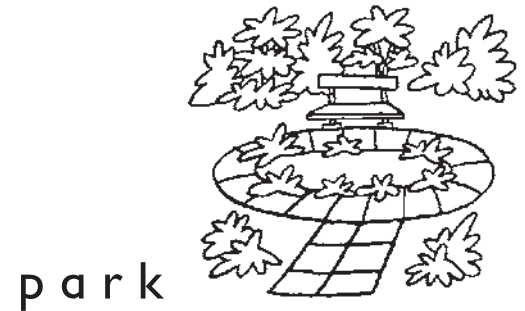
- 1. the body part with fingers _____
- 2. difficult to do or break _____
- 3. a group of animals _____
- 4. a man or boy who does something brave _____
- 5. the number 0 _____





Word ladder (2)

Change one letter in each word below to make a new word. Use the clues to help you.

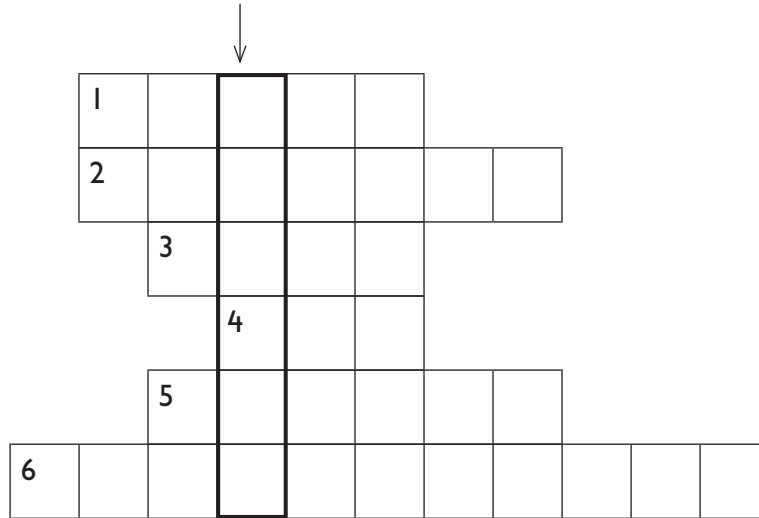


1. a bit of something _____
2. the time before now _____
3. moving very quickly _____
4. after everyone else _____
5. a number of things
written on after another _____



Family word fun

Read the clues and complete crossword.



1. your mother's brother
2. a boy with the same presents as you
3. your father's sister
4. a person's male child
5. a girl with the same parents as you
6. your mother's mother

Now read down the grid from the arrow to find another family member: _____




Making a word bank

A **word bank** is a collection of interesting words on a particular topic.



Put the words below into their correct word bank.

Add more words of your own.

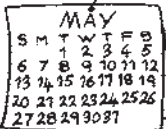
March wrist trousers windscreen knee
 wheel tie Sunday year afternoon headlight
 blouse elbow trainers engine morning




Clothes



Time words




MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



Parts of the body

Parts of a car





Collecting words



Use this page to make your own collection of words.
Here are some ideas for a word collection:

- words connected with a topic you are interested in
- words you want to learn to spell
- words you have learned to spell
- your favourite words



Make sure you know the meaning of the words you collect. Use the Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check way to learn how to spell them.

Word

Definition



_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Answers

Activity 1

1. a 2. h 3. t 4. d 5. z

Activity 2

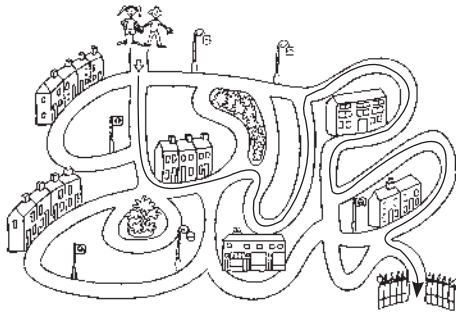
1. c, e, h, l, p, s, v, x, z

Activity 3

- efgh lmno **qrst** uvwx bcde hijk mnop
- l, x, u, i, q, f, d, j, s, v
- b, l, i, x, f, u, e, w, n, s
- c, o, g, w, l, y, t, q, i, u

Activity 4

- bcde ghij mnopq vwxyz
- bcfg qstv hikm ptvw
-



Activity 5

- alligator, bear, camel,
- apple, lemon, orange, peach; hat, jeans, scarf, tie

Activity 6

- drum, guitar, piano 2. carrot, egg, rice
- doctor, nurse, teacher 4. car, truck, van
- factory, hospital, school

Activity 7

1.

y	e	l	l	o	w
a	t	o	e	r	h
b	g	c	s	a	i
l	r	e	d	n	t
u	e	d	u	g	e
e	e	n	g	e	e
v	n	p	i	n	k

2. (in alphabetical order): blue, green, orange, pink, red, white, yellow

Activity 8

Check the children's answers are correct.

Activity 9

Check the children's answers make sense.

Activity 10

- hard, light, wide, loud, many, inside
- tall, short, big, small, back, front

Activity 11

ape, wolf, cat, leaf, snake, nest, pear, peach, face
Check the children have written the correct page numbers.

Activity 12

hen; ring; clock; train; cold; chair

Activity 13

jump, fish, flag, lamp, square, boy

Activity 14

- long a: gate, play, train 2. long e: leaf, tree,
- long o: boat, bow

Activity 15

- long i: cry, bite, lie; It goes **high** in the sky.
- long u: moon, cube; Use **glue** to stick things together.

Activity 16

- football
- classroom, blackboard, doorbell, motorbike, playground, earthquake, toothbrush, thunderstorm, newspaper, butterfly

Activity 17

fathers, huts, lizards, knees, ovens, pencils, rooms, shoes, holes, storms

Activity 18

- smiles, smiling, smiled 2. buries, burying, buried
- walks, walking, walked 4. carries, carrying, carried
- laughs, laughing, laughed 6. cries, crying, cried
- hurries, hurrying, hurried 8. dives, diving, dived
- slips, slipping, slipped 10. barks, barking, barked

Activity 19

h	e	w	f	l	a	z	y
m	x	o	d	d	l	b	c
o	c	r	s	c	a	k	l
z	i	j	o	d	r	i	e
e	t	l	f	n	g	v	a
t	e	g	t	y	e	u	n
a	d	p	g	i	w	e	t
f r i e n d l y							

Activity 20

- ow** and **ou**: cloud, crowd, shout
- oi** and **oy**: boil, boy, coin
- oo** and **u**: book, push/pushchair

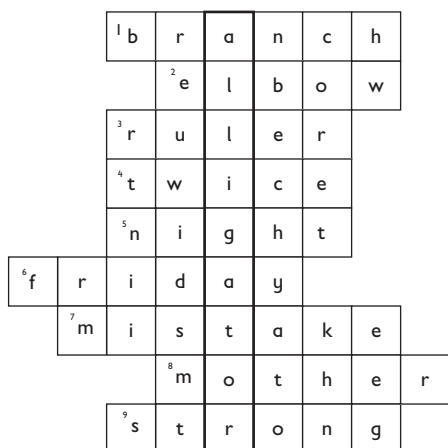
Activity 21

- fair, pear, share
- Did you **tear** this dress?
- It is rude to **stare**.
- Her **hair** was very long.
- Take **care**. The **stairs** are steep.
- Where will you **wear** that hat?

Activity 22

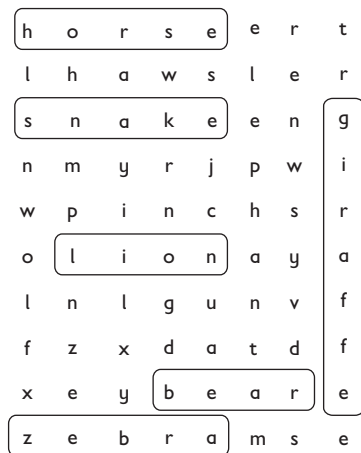
Check the children's answers are correct.

Activity 23



The animal's name contained in the puzzle is **alligator**.
Coded message: Bring drinks for our picnic tomorrow Zoe

Activity 24



Activity 25

- Rain,
- Sun,
- Snow,
- Wind,
- Rainbow

Activity 26

ache, echo, oval, lean, news, sigh, hero, obey, your, roar, rare

Activity 27

- army
- boat
- chick
- dustbin
- emerald
- February
- gate
- honey
- iron
- jug
- kite
- lion
- mouth

Activity 28

- night
- onion
- pebble
- queen
- rubbish
- Seat
- toad
- uncle
- vet
- winner
- x-ray
- yolk
- zigzag

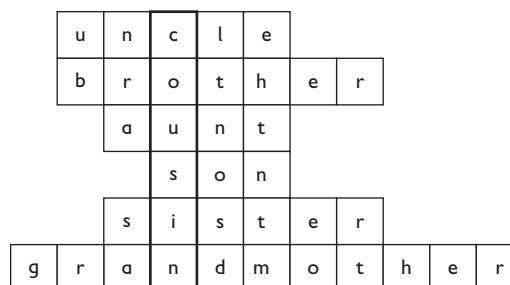
Activity 29

land, hand, hard, herd, hero, zero

Activity 30

park, part, past, fast, last, list

Activity 31



The other family member is **cousin**

Activity 32

Clothes: trousers, tie, blouse, trainers

Time words: March, Sunday, year, afternoon, morning

Parts of the body: wrist, knee, elbow

Parts of a car: windscreen, wheel, headlight, engine