

Home Learning, E-Learning Ideas

Books are a wonderful way to start a learning engagement. This week we are starting our focus on figurative language—beginning with onomatopoeias for our younger students and similes for our older students.

Younger Students

This week we are focusing on onomatopoeias. Onomatopoeias are words that show a sound. Listen to the nursery rhyme *Old McDonald Had a Farm*. Pay attention to the words that show a sound such as “meow, meow.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6HzoUcx3eo>

After listening to the book, write the sound that each animal makes on the next page. On the bottom of the page, choose another animal you would find on the farm. Draw a picture of the animal and write the sound your animal would make.

On page 3, you will find pictures of four animals. What sounds do they make? Share your answers with a parent or a sibling and then draw one of the animals in its habitat.

Elementary Students:

- ◆ Students will be listening to the book Quick as a Cricket next. Prior to the book, have students fill out the prediction sheet on page 4 and 5. Students will predict the animal that completes each simile.
- ◆ Students will then listen to the book. As they listen, check off how many times they agreed with the author to complete the simile.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XuJvFkg_ZM

- ◆ The similes in this book are what we call “incomplete” similes. The simile compares an emotional trait to an animal. Now it is time to complete the simile by providing an example or reason.
- ◆ For example:

*I'm as quick as a cricket **hopping through the spring grass**.*

*I'm as hot as a fox **laying in the summer sun**.*

Write the new similes on a 3 by 5 note card. Illustrate each simile.

- ◆ The story ends with saying the child is a combination of all these similes. Write 5 similes that describe you.
- ◆ For example:

I'm as shy as rabbit hiding from the roaring lion.

What Sound Do you Hear?

A pig says _____

A duck says _____

A horse says _____

A sheep says _____

A cow says _____

A turkey says _____

Choose another animal not on the video. Draw a picture of the animal below and include what the animal says.



Simile Prediction

I'm as quick as a _____

I'm as slow as a _____

I'm as small as a _____

I'm as large as a _____

I'm as sad as a _____

I'm as happy as a _____

I'm as nice as a _____

I'm as mean as a _____

I'm as cold as a _____

I'm as hot as a _____

I'm as weak as a _____

I'm as strong as a _____

I'm as loud as a _____

I'm as quiet as a _____

I'm as tough as a _____

Simile Prediction

I'm as gentle as a _____

I'm as brave as a _____

I'm as shy as a _____

I'm as tame as a _____

I'm as wild as a _____

I'm as lazy as _____

I'm as busy as a _____

Lesson for older students on plants.

Books are a wonderful way to start a learning engagement. This week we are starting our focus on figurative language—beginning with similes.

- ◆ Listen to the book *Skin Like Milk, Hair of Silk* by Brian P. Cleary. This week we are focusing on similes. Listen to the first portion of the book which both teaches similes and gives examples.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obS0cANPTjU>

- ◆ After listening to the book, write your own definition of a simile. Along with the definition, write three simile examples.
- ◆ Now listen to the book *My Dog is as Smelly as Dirty Socks* by Hanoch Piven.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e1mn72Rk_j0

- ◆ In this book, the author describes members of her family through the use of similes. Think of a friend or family member. Create 5 similes which explain this person.
- ◆ Repeat this process for yourself. Write 5 similes which would help someone get to know you better.
- ◆ The similes in this book are what we call “incomplete” similes. The simile compares a personality trait to an object. Now it is time to complete the simile by providing an example or reason. **For example:**

I am as enthusiastic as a firecracker when my parents tell me its time to plan our vacation.

I am as sleepy as a sloth on Monday mornings when my alarm goes off and its time to go to school.

- ◆ Using this book as a mentor text, create your own book describing a special person in your life. Be sure to describe this person's characteristics as a simile.
- ◆ Keep a simile journal for 2 days. Every time you read or hear a simile, write it down. See how many similes you can collect in 48 hours. (Be sure to listen to song lyrics!)

We would love to hear and see what you are learning. Email us your thoughts or projects at: darlene-and-terry@writenow-rightnow.com