

## Adjectives

- Adjectives are describing words.
- The main role of adjectives is to give more information about the noun in the sentence. This is usually the subject or object of the sentence.
- Using adjectives is a good way for children to extend their sentences and give more information to the listener.
- Many adjectives are concept words which children will need to be able to understand before they are able to use them accurately in their expressive language.

Here is a list of common adjectives grouped together into sets:

Appearance	Time	Size	Feelings	Quantity
Beautiful	Old	Big	Calm	Empty
Clean	Late	Great	Happy	Full
Elegant	Slow	Tiny	Scary	Few
Sparkling	Early	Huge	Brave	Abundant
Dirty	Long	Scrawny	Helpless	Many
Short	Ancient	Slim	Grumpy	Sparse
Smart	Brief	Tall	Jealous	Heavy

Activity ideas to develop understanding and use of adjectives:

- Use visuals (pictures/ gestures) to help demonstrate the meaning of the adjective.
- For new words use a word web to discuss the meaning of the word and help the child to retain the word for future use (see toolkit sheet on developing vocabulary and word finding skills).
- Give written sentences and ask the child to identify the adjective in the sentence.
- Also encourage them to identify the noun that the adjective is describing (this will ensure that they have fully understood the whole sentence).
- Give a word bank of adjectives for children to choose from when wanting to use adjectives. This can be done around specific curriculum topics in school.
- Give example sentences for adjectives to be added in a given gap- this may need to be from a choice of adjectives to begin with but as the child develops their knowledge of adjectives they may be able to think of their own adjective ideas.  
**e.g. the custard was very \_\_\_\_\_.**
- Ask the child to identify the parts of the sentence they may want to extend by adding adjectives. **e.g. The boy walked to school.** They can then be encouraged to think of suitable adjectives to describe the noun(s). They might need help at this point to work out where in the sentence the adjective should be added.

## Adjectives Word Bank

tall	beautiful	old	calm	empty
tiny	clean	late	happy	full
huge	dirty	early	scary	heavy
big	ugly	slow	brave	abundant
slim	short	ancient	jealous	sparse