# Literacy Activities

Suitable for KS2 (8 to 9 years)

Defining words & Prefixes and suffixes

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Use this packet of activities to help children practice their Language Arts skills.
Day 1

**Context clues** are words in a sentence that give hints about a word’s meaning. You can use **context clues** to figure out the meanings of unknown words.

Read each sentence. Draw a line to the word that best matches the word in bold.

1. A **streak** of lightning flashed across the dark sky.
   - A. dark

2. Some trees **shed** their leaves in the fall and become bare.
   - B. happy

3. People think that house is haunted because **weird** sounds come out of there.
   - C. job

4. Kalani was **delighted** when her best friend came to visit.
   - D. line

5. Let’s repaint the hallway a brighter **colour** so it doesn’t look so **gloomy**.
   - E. lose

6. It was my **chore** to water the garden every day.
   - F. pulled

7. Ethan **yanked** the weeds out by hand.
   - G. smile

8. The boy had a happy **grin** on his face when he saw his new puppy.
   - H. strange
Day 1 (Cont'd)

Read the words in the box below. Write each word in the sentence that defines it.

- tossed
- annoy
- lively
- scent
- chilly
- squirmed
- famished
- hilarious

1. Roses have a sweet ____________.

2. The ____________ music made people smile and clap.

3. The child ____________ and would not sit still for her haircut.

4. I wore a sweater because it was ____________ outside.

5. We laughed loudly at the ____________ movie.

6. Aiden ____________ a ball in the air and then caught it.

7. My brother plays jokes on me just to ____________ me.

8. I'm so ____________, I could eat ten sandwiches!
Day 2

Context clues are words in a sentence that give hints about a word’s meaning. You can use context clues to figure out the meanings of unknown words.

Read the sentences. Write what the word in bold means. Use the answer box to help you. Circle the context clues that help you understand the meaning.

<table>
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<th>Answer Box</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>very big</td>
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<tr>
<td>interested in something</td>
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<tr>
<td>not occupied</td>
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<tr>
<td>important or special</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>free of clutter</td>
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<tr>
<td>further past</td>
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<tr>
<td>very tired</td>
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1. There is a playground out **beyond** the soccer field.

2. Because she was **curious**, Alice followed the talking rabbit down the rabbit hole.

3. My friend Liam keeps his desk very **tidy**, but mine is a mess.

4. After the marathon, Ada was so **weary** she could hardly walk.

5. The **precious** stuffed bear was given to me by my grandmother before we moved. I can’t sleep without it.

6. There is a **vacant** space next to our house. The city council is thinking of building a park in the space there.

7. When we went to the beach, seeing the **vast** ocean extend all the way to horizon made me feel small.
Day 2 (Cont’d)

Read the words in the box below. Write each word in the sentence that defines it. There will be some extra words.

cautious  timid  glanced  scorched  alarmed
anxious  exhausted  grand  entire  concealed

1. Megan was _________ and screamed when she heard the loud bang.

2. The king lives in a _________ palace that has hundreds of windows.

3. I _________ my favourite shirt when I tried to iron it.

4. The workers took less than an hour to paint the _________ room.

5. The _________ boy hid behind his mom when the guests arrived.

6. You must be _________ whenever you cross the street.

7. Axel was _________ after jogging for an hour.

8. I _________ Mum’s birthday gift in the back of my wardrobe.
Context clues are words in a sentence that give hints about a word’s meaning. You can use context clues to figure out the meanings of unknown words.

Read each sentence below. Circle the correct meaning of the bolded word.

1. The students **assembled** in front of the school to wait for their bus.
   a. yelled
   b. skipped
   c. lined up

2. Jose’s story was so **brief** it took him only a minute to read it aloud.
   a. short
   b. long
   c. exciting

3. Kris **murmured** a reply, but I couldn’t hear it.
   a. screamed
   b. yelled
   c. said softly

4. Our club **donates** food and toys to needy families every year.
   a. buys
   b. gives away
   c. eats

Continued on the next page
5. It was **sweating** outside, so I bought some ice cream to cool off.
   a. hot 
   b. chilly 
   c. raining 

6. It **seldom** rains here, so I’m surprised it’s pouring today.
   a. frequently 
   b. not often 
   c. usually 

7. The garbage had a bad **odour**, so I pinched my nose when I took out the trash.
   a. smell 
   b. colour 
   c. sound 

8. The child clapped her hands with **glee** when she got her gift.
   a. sadness 
   b. anger 
   c. joy
Day 3 (Cont’d)

Read the sentences below. Write 1 or 2 words that define the word that is in **bold**. Circle the words that you used as clues.

1. When the glass bowl **shattered** on the floor, I had to sweep up the pieces.

2. Aisha was chosen for the swimming team because she’s a **competent** swimmer.

3. It was very **considerate** of Jamie to get me a get-well card.

4. I could not identify that **peculiar** smell in our kitchen.

5. Shayne likes **calculating** sums in his head rather than writing out the numbers on paper.
Day 4

A **prefix** is a word part added to the beginning of a root word. Circle the **prefix** in each word.

Prefixes:

- un- (not)
- pre- (before)
- re- (again)
- mis- (not)
- dis- (opposite of)
- in- (not)

1. replay
2. misuse
3. unhappy
4. invisible
5. unsafe
6. presale
7. rewrite
8. dishonest
9. disobey
10. unclean
11. insincere
12. reuse
13. misinform
14. preschool
### Day 4 (Cont’d)

Use the word bank of **prefixes** to write the definitions for the words below.

**Prefixes:**

- **un-** (not)
- **pre-** (before)
- **re-** (again)
- **mis-** (not)
- **dis-** (opposite of)
- **in-** (not)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. replay</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. misuse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. unhappy</td>
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<td>6. presale</td>
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<td>11. insincere</td>
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<td>12. reuse</td>
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<td>13. misinform</td>
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<td>14. preschool</td>
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A suffix is a word part added to the end of a root word.
Circle the suffix in each word.

Suffixes:
-s, -es (plural)  -er, -or (person who)  -less (without)
-ing (action)  -able (able to)
-ed (past tense verb)  -ful (full of)  -ly (how)

1. player
2. playful
3. feared
4. caring
5. painless
6. useable
7. happily
8. safely
9. writing
10. brushes
11. painter
12. agreeable
13. coverless
14. cheerful
Day 5 (Cont’d)

Use the word bank of **suffixes** to write the definitions for the words below.

**Suffixes:**

- **-s, -es** (plural)
- **-er, -or** (person who)
- **-less** (without)
- **-ing** (action)
- **-able** (able to)
- **-ed** (past tense verb)
- **-ful** (full of)
- **-ly** (how)

1. player _______________
2. playful _______________
3. feared _______________
4. caring _______________
5. painless _______________
6. useable _______________
7. happily _______________
8. safely _______________
9. writing _______________
10. brushes _______________
11. painter _______________
12. agreeable _______________
13. coverless _______________
14. cheerful _______________