

Chapter 2

Adjectives

Introduction

The aim of this chapter is to enable children to discover the function and explore the variety of adjectives. Children are encouraged to use their creativity to develop their use of adjectives in describing real and imaginary things. They are invited to describe themselves and others and to search for adjectives to use in stories, poems and in persuasive writing. Many early years classes begin by using the term 'describing word'. It is up to you to decide when to introduce the term 'adjective'.

Poster notes

Adjectives (page 33)

This poster provides a range of examples that you can use to introduce the function of adjectives. Ask children to use each of the adjectives in a sentence of their own. Show them photographs and ask them which of the adjectives from the poster they could use to describe the things depicted. Introduce the idea of opposites and help children to find pairs of opposites on the page.

What is pink? (page 34)

This poem by Christina Rossetti can be enjoyed by children and can serve as a model for their own writing. They can change the nouns that are described or substitute different adjectives and nouns. Class poems can be created using other adjectives such as shapes and sizes. You could also change 'What' to 'Who'.

In this chapter

What is an adjective?
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Introduce the function of adjectives.

Variety of adjectives
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Increase vocabulary.

Using adjectives (1)
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Use adjectives in different types of text.

Using adjectives (2)
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Use adjectives to achieve different effects.

Writing with adjectives
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Write for purposes more effectively using adjectives.

