

Chapter 4

Verbs

Introduction

This chapter will provide children with a thorough introduction to verbs. It includes activities that develop their understanding of the role verbs play in sentences. There is also a clear emphasis on trying things out with this class of words – particularly in the ‘Verbs in writing’ where children are encouraged to list and try out a variety of verbs. Children will be turned back on their own speech or environment to mime out examples they can then apply to their own writing.

Poster notes

Past, present and future (page 79)

This poster provides examples of the past and present tenses and the future form of a few common verbs. It can be displayed as a reminder of how these three tenses operate. Boxes or whole columns can be covered, leaving groups to suggest what the missing words could be. It illustrates important points about past and future tenses, which children soon notice when faced with the three columns.

Pin people (page 80)

This collection of pin people provides a variety of actions and the verbs that denote them. It is similar to the sort of chart children are asked to construct on photocopiable page 82 ‘Little boxes’.

In this chapter

Collecting verbs page 81

Learn the function of verbs in sentences, observing their key role in sentences.

Changing verbs page 85

Learn the function of verbs in sentences, collecting and classifying examples and experimenting with changing them.

Tenses page 89

Understand the appropriate and consistent use of verb tenses.

Investigating verbs page 93

Learn to consider the function of verbs in sentences.

Verbs in writing page 97

Expand use of verbs in writing.

