

# Noun

A word (other than a pronoun) used to identify any of a class of people, places, or things.

## Abstract

love  
hate  
fear  
imagination  
longing  
despair  
excitement  
confusion  
peace  
leadership

## Collective

team  
family  
group  
herd  
pack  
swarm  
bunch  
pile  
collection

## Concrete

table  
door  
plane  
book  
banana  
snow  
cloud  
friend  
teacher  
chimney

## Compound

hockey stick  
toothpaste  
underground  
haircut  
output  
armchair  
headphones  
suntan  
childhood  
iceberg

## Pronoun

he  
she  
it  
they  
them  
her  
him  
his  
ours  
I

## Proper

London  
Jane  
Friday  
December  
Australia  
Taj Mahal  
Mr. Smith  
Mount Kilimanjaro  
Titanic  
Romeo and Juliet

# Singular Noun and Plural Noun

- ▶ Most nouns can be either singular (only one) or plural (more than one).

<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
cloud dog	clouds dogs

# Collective Noun

A word that refers to a group.

A shoal of fish

A herd of elephants

A nest of mice

A pack of wolves

A gaggle of geese

# Proper Noun

- ▶ This noun begins with a capital letters and is the names of people, places, organisations and unique things.
- ▶ Bob
- ▶ London
- ▶ Mcdonalds
- ▶ This also includes days of the week and months of the years.
- ▶ Monday
- ▶ March

# Common nouns

- ▶ All other nouns are common nouns.
- ▶ Concrete nouns are nouns that name people, places and things that can be experienced through the five sense (taste, touch, smell, hear and see).
- ▶ Abstract nouns name feelings, ideas and concepts - *hate, anger, jealousy*.

# Games for teaching Nouns

- ▶ These games can be played across KS1 and KS2.
- ▶ I spy, mime it and the memory game are suitable for EYFS.
- ▶ These games are all fun games for the family to play together. All you need is a pen, paper and your imagination.

# Games to play at home when teaching nouns

## ▶ I spy

Play “I spy” searching for nouns in your house or garden.

Make it easy for EYFS or year 1 by suggesting only choosing things we can see.



# Mime it

One person mimes something (a noun) and everyone else has to guess. I can help if you give a category such as animal, things you find in your kitchen, something you eat, something you find in the countryside etc.

Make it harder for KS2 by using the category concrete nouns or abstract nouns.

See if you can guess the nouns the teachers are pretending to be.

# The memory game

Place objects on a tray or table. Give the children time to memorise the noun. Then cover it with a blanket or tea towel.

Then the children write a list or draw the nouns they can remember.

Make it easier for EYFS or KS1 by choosing a category of objects e.g. food, toys, etc.

Make it harder for KS2 by adding more objects at least 10.

# The does it fit game

- ▶ This game is a useful way of helping children get a feel for the grammatical properties of a noun. Provide children with these two sentences:

The \_\_\_\_\_ is great.

The \_\_\_\_\_ were great.

The children need to decide which words are nouns, which words are not nouns, which can be used as nouns and which can be used as something else.

For example the word green appears to be an adjective but it is not always as it appears.

The *green* is great.

Provide a bag or pile of words written on paper. Test out these first before creating your own:

*fish, group, huge, stole, cars, question, branch, Susie, party, angry, hard, sun, laptop, potato, stars, shirt, shy, scissors, following, missing, bird and wave.*

This game can be played using a scoring system. One point for a correct word choice and the winner is the player with the most points.

# Alphabet Race

- ▶ This game requires a minimum of two competitors but can be played with as many as you like! All you need is a pencil and paper. The race helps children generate ideas as well as reinforcing the nature of nouns. Create a blank simple grid like the one below (including all the letters of the alphabet) with two categories as headings.
- ▶ As this is a race the winner is the first person to fill in their grid. Don't forget to use capital letters for proper nouns!

<u>Alphabet</u>	<u>Girl's Names</u>	<u>Boy's Names</u>
a		
b		
c		
d		
e		
f		
g		

# Different Ideas for alphabet race categories

<u>Alphabet</u>	<u>Nouns you find in your bedroom</u>	<u>Nouns you find in your bathroom</u>
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<u>Alphabet</u>	<u>Things you find in your kitchen</u>	<u>Food</u>
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<u>Alphabet</u>	<u>Nouns you find in the woods</u>	<u>Nouns you find at the beach</u>
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<u>Alphabet</u>	<u>Nouns you find on a farm</u>	<u>Nouns you find in the countryside</u>
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<u>Alphabet</u>	<u>Animals</u>	<u>Fruit and Veg</u>
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<u>Alphabet</u>	<u>Cities</u>	<u>Countries</u>
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# The proper noun alphabet game

- ▶ Hold an alphabet race in pairs or groups! Write a common noun and a proper noun for each letter. Make the challenge hard by using alliteration (the occurrence of the same letter or sound at the beginning of adjacent or closely connected words).

- ▶ For example

A is for Archie, an amazing ant.

B is for Boris, a beautiful bear.

C is for ....

This game can be taken in turn or as a race.

Partner A to say the first part (A is for Archie) and partner B to add the animal and adjective.

# Leave them out game

- ▶ Nouns are crucial when writing sentences. Find a few sentences from a book you are reading and remove the nouns. Ask the children to read the text aloud with no nouns so they can hear the keystones of the sentences are missing.
- ▶ Now comes the fun part. Ask the children to fill in the blanks using their own nouns. The children can be as creative with the nouns as possible! Therefore creating their own fun and crazy writing.
- ▶ Please see the example below.

## Cloze procedure

*The ... wheezed past the old. ... The ... tooted the ... and waited while the ... chugged along. Was it about to explode? After a while, a young ... came out and poured cold ... into the .... Everyone watched while it bubbled happily. ... hissed.*

## One possible answer

*The car wheezed past the old garage. The driver tooted the horn and waited while the engine chugged along. Was it about to explode? After a while, a young man came out and poured cold water into the engine. Everyone watched while it bubbled happily. Steam hissed.*

# The proper noun poem

- ▶ Provide the children with a simple pattern that involves a day of the week, a month, a name and a place. For example

*On Monday in December, Phil swam to Swindon.*

*On Tuesday in January, Nick trotted through London.*

*On Wednesday in February,*

- ▶ Don't forget to use capital letters for proper nouns!

- ▶ KS2 challenge yourself to use adverbs.

*On Monday in December, Phil swam seriously to Swindon.*

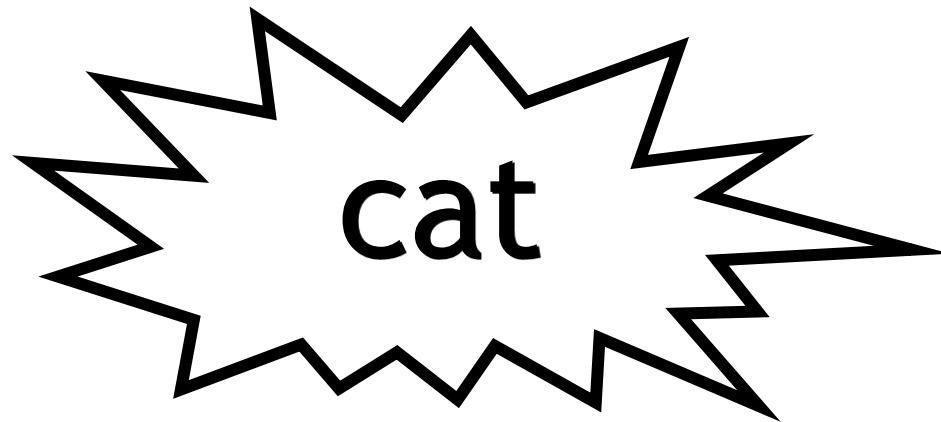
*On Tuesday in January, Nick trotted timidly through London.*

*On Wednesday in February,*



# Noun Explosion!

- ▶ This is a great game for limbering up your imagination. Choose a noun and try to think of as many links to this noun as possible. Simple words can have many meanings.
- ▶ Put the noun in the middle of your page in an explosion. Now explore as many meanings and links you can think of for the word. Don't forget that words make sounds so you can include rhymes or alliteration.
- ▶ The winner is the person who creates the most links.



# Singular and plural riddles game

- ▶ Nouns can be either singular (one) or plural (more than one). There are few words that do not change their spellings such as sheep or deer and some words change completely! Play the singular and plural riddle game by giving the child or children a clue to the noun that you are thinking of. The children then have to write the singular and the plural to get two points (one for the singular and one for the plural).
- ▶ KS2 challenge yourself to think of more than one answer. If you think of more than one you can have more than one answer for each you gain more points.
- ▶ See the examples below.

<u>Clue</u>
I am thinking of someone who steals.
I am thinking of something found in the sky
I am thinking of a musical instrument with black and white keys.

<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
thief robber	thieves robbers
cloud	clouds
piano	pianos

# Irregular plural nouns

The plural of wife is... wives	The plural of woman is... women	The plural of louse is... lice	The plural of fish is... fish	The plural of loaf is... loaves	The plural of goose is... geese	The plural of cactus is... cacti	The plural of shrimp is... shrimp
The plural of shelf is... shelves	The plural of snowman is... snowmen	The plural of child is... children	The plural of trousers is... trousers	The plural of knife is... knives	The plural of tooth is... teeth	The plural of fungus is... fungi	The plural of moose is... moose
The plural of wolf is... wolves	The plural of man is... men	The plural of person is... people	The plural of sheep is... sheep				
The plural of elf is... elves	The plural of foot is... feet	The plural of mouse is... mice	The plural of deer is... deer				

# City of stars game

- ▶ This game can be played in pairs or alone.
- ▶ Partner A makes a list of places or containers e.g. *library, cathedral, zoo, garage, museum, hotel, music hall, beach, cave, rucksack, suitcase, box, handbag etc.*
- ▶ Partner B makes a list of abstract nouns (feelings, ideas and concepts) e.g. *hate, anger, jealousy, belief, thought, curiosity, reluctance, greed, sorrow, wonder, envy, generosity, strength etc.*
- ▶ Now the pair work together to mix the two lists, creating remarkable new places and containers.

- ▶ For example:

*The library of belief*

*The cathedral of thought*

*The zoo of curiosity*

*The garage of reluctance*

*The museum of greed*

*The beach of cowardice*

# City of stars game continued...

The game can be made even more interesting by working to add a list of adjectives and verbs.

- ▶ Partner A makes a list of adjectives (a word naming an attribute or describing a noun) e.g. *scarlet, soft, cruel, sharp, sensitive, cautious, sunlit*.
- ▶ Partner B makes a list of verbs (a word used to describe an action, state, or occurrence) e.g. *investigates, flees, chuckles, whispers, cartwheels, notices, sleeps*.

Select each adjective and verb in a random order in which they were listed. The list of poetic phrases now reads as follows:

*The library of scarlet belief investigates*  
*The cathedral of soft thought flees*  
*The zoo of cruel curiosity chuckles*  
*The garage of sharp reluctance whispers*

# Get those nouns moving!

- ▶ Try using a noun to start a verb race. Write a noun and give the children one minute to list as many verbs as possible that might go with the noun. The winner of the race is a the child or adult who manages to come up with the largest number of verbs.

For example:

<b>Car</b>	<b>cruised rushed dashed drove prowled trundled</b>
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