

Activity

Guide words

Learning objective: to use the dictionary and other alphabetically-based reference books more efficiently through understanding and using guide words



Before you start

- Revise guide words and their purpose.
- To complete question 2, children will need watches or clocks to time themselves in seconds.



Answers

1. a) digital 97 b) detached 95 c) destiny 94
d) dirt 98 e) describe 94 f) differ 97
g) deodorant 93 h) detective 95 i) dingo 98
j) deputy 93

2. Check the pages in whichever dictionary you are using.



More to do

- Discuss and use the guide words in other reference books, such as telephone directories, larger dictionaries and encyclopedias.

Name: _____

Activity

Guide words

1. The first box contains the **guide words** from the top of some pages in a dictionary. Use them to work out on which page you would find the words in the second box. Do not use your dictionary!

dentist to **descant** page 93
descend to **destroy** page 94
destructive to **devious** page 95
devise to **die** page 96
diet to **din** page 97
dine to **disagreeable** page 98

a) digital page 97
b) detached page _____
c) destiny page _____
d) dirt page _____
e) describe page _____
f) differ page _____
g) deodorant page _____
h) detective page _____
i) dingo page _____
j) deputy page _____

2. Find the words below using the guide words in a dictionary. Write down the page number for each. Record how many seconds it took.

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a) python page _____ seconds | b) bird page _____ seconds |
| c) tiger page _____ seconds | d) uphill page _____ seconds |
| e) wax page _____ seconds | f) goblin page _____ seconds |
| g) sauce page _____ seconds | h) food page _____ seconds |
| i) otter page _____ seconds | j) milk page _____ seconds |

3. Now try again to see if you can find the words faster.

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a) python page _____ seconds | b) bird page _____ seconds |
| c) tiger page _____ seconds | d) uphill page _____ seconds |
| e) wax page _____ seconds | f) goblin page _____ seconds |
| g) sauce page _____ seconds | h) food page _____ seconds |
| i) otter page _____ seconds | j) milk page _____ seconds |