Collins

Collins Primary Dictionary

Definitions

Suggested activities:

- In pairs, use the dictionary to find as many words belonging to one word class within one letter in a certain amount of time.

- Play a version of 'stop the bus' – find a word in the dictionary beginning with a certain letter for each word class (eg a noun/adverb/ adjective/verb all beginning with P, C, O and T); award 2 points for a word that nobody else has written down; 1 point for a word that others have chosen.

- Read out the definitions of some common words in the dictionary and ask pupils to guess what headword they describe. Set it up as a team game; teams get 5 points for guessing correctly before the end of the definition (no shouting out!); 3 points for guessing correctly at the end of the definition; and 1 point for guessing correctly with additional clues (eg what the word starts with, example sentence, etc).

- Ask pupils to choose and write out the definitions from the dictionary for several words that they didn't know before. Share these with the class and create a class wordbank of the favourite words. Pupils could take it turns to choose an unknown 'Word of the Day'.

- Silly sentences – challenge pupils to use the dictionary to find words beginning with a certain letter belonging to a particular word class, for example, an adverb beginning with 'D'. Pupils should then use all the words found in a nonsense sentence.

- Pupil worksheets available separately for download.

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Definitions (1)

The definitions in the *Collins Primary Dictionary* are organised so that you can easily find what you are looking for. For each meaning, the word class (noun, verb, adjective etc) is shown before the definition. Make sure you check that you are looking at the correct word class when you are looking for a meaning. More information about word classes is shown in the **Word Wizard** on pages 460 to 462 at the back of the dictionary.

1. Using the *Collins Primary Dictionary* to help you, look up the following words, and write in the missing word class for each one:

    a. **escape** _____ If you **escape** from someone or something, you succeed in getting away from them.

    b. **place** _____ a particular position in a race, competition, or series

    c. **cold** _____ If the weather is **cold**, the air temperature is very low.

    d. **coat** _____ If you **coat** something, you cover it with a thick layer of something.

2. In the examples below, identify the word class for each underlined word and write **true** if the definition is correct, and **false** if it is not correct.

    a. *Example:* Luckily the first day of the holidays was <u>fine</u> and sunny.

    Definition: a sum of money that must be paid as a

    punishment _____

    b. *Example:* The <u>iron</u> key fitted perfectly in the old door.

    Definition: a hard, dark metal used to make steel _____

    c. *Example:* He was taken there against his <u>will</u>.

    Definition: what you choose or want to do _____

    d. *Example:* I stood <u>outside</u> in the garden.

    Definition: not included in something _____

Definitions (2)

3. Write down how many meanings are listed in the *Collins Primary Dictionary* for:

    a. **operate** _____

    b. **ring** _____

    c. **cold** _____

    d. **round** _____

4. Read through the following examples and look up the <u>underlined</u> word in the *Collins Primary Dictionary.* Write down the meaning number that matches each example.

    a. Make sure you <u>shake</u> the carton well before opening it. _____

    b. I <u>grazed</u> my knee when I fell off my bike. _____

    c. She got a <u>text</u> from her best friend. _____

    d. The tree blew down in the strong <u>wind</u>. _____

5. Make up your own example sentences for the following words, using the information in brackets to tell you which word class or meaning to show.

    a. **safe** (NOUN) _____

    _____

    b. **case** (NOUN; crime) _____

    _____

    c. **light** (ADJECTIVE; not heavy) _____

    _____