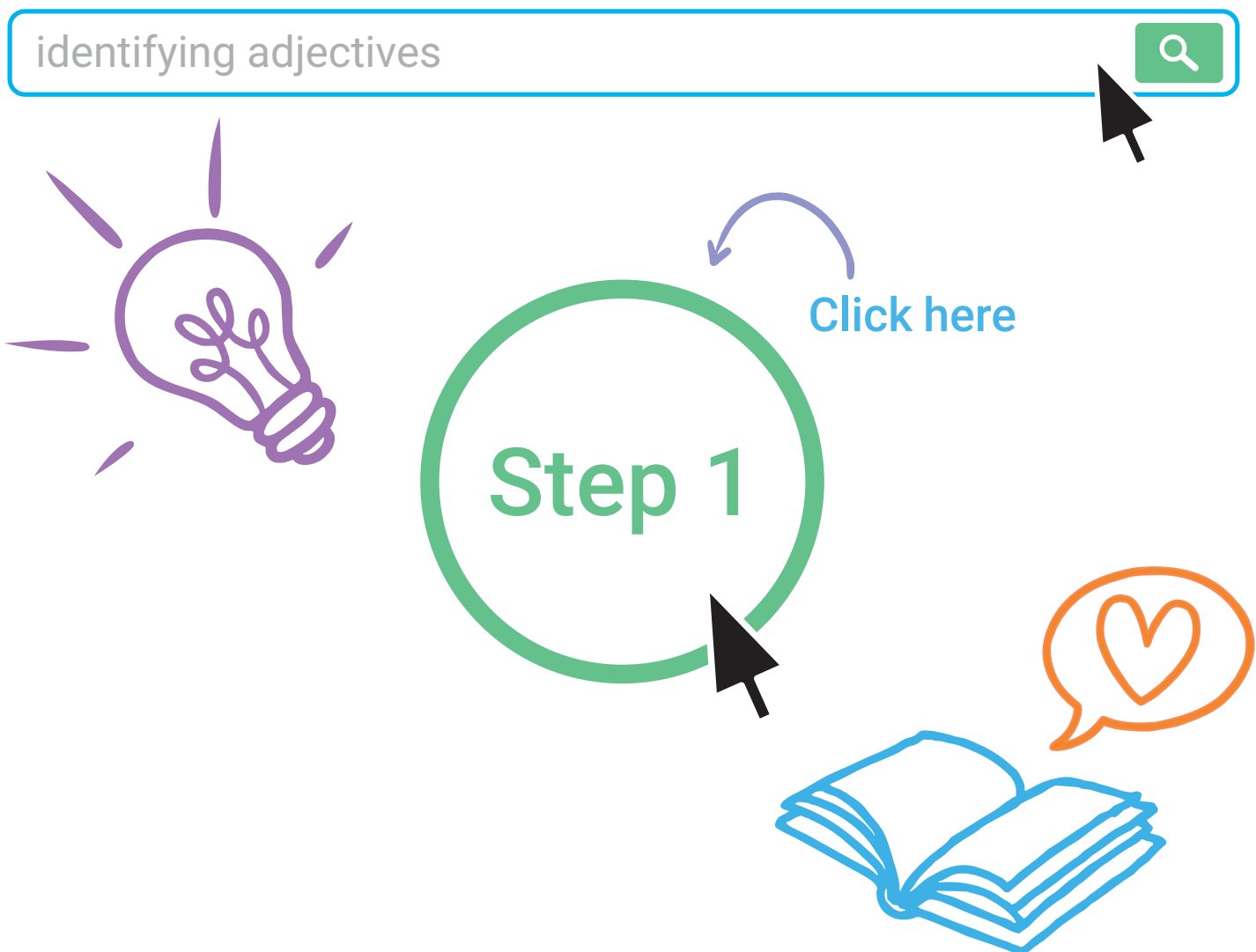


Year 1 Expanded Noun Phrases: A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

This step-by-step explanation to year 1 noun phrases can help you support your child's learning at home. It is important to note that expanded noun phrases will not be formally introduced to your child until year 2. However, this guide can help you develop your child's use of adjectives for description in preparation for learning about noun phrases and then expanded noun phrases. The subject is broken down into manageable chunks, providing you with a simple guide to follow when learning about expanded noun phrases together, either as part of homework, or if you decide to give your child some extra support. In this guide, you will find a step that matches your child's stage of learning and it will also offer you next steps for your child's learning.

Within this area of the website, you will find a selection of resources intended to help your child learn about each step of this guide. Each step also contains a keyword or phrase that you can use to search the Twinkl site for more resources and activities, designed to support your child in achieving that stage. Simply type the keyword or phrase into the search bar and press enter to explore together.



We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. The contents of this resource are for general, informational purposes only. This guide is intended to offer parents general guidance on what subject areas tend to be covered in their child's year group and where they could support their children at home. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. There are some subject areas that we have intentionally not covered due to the nature of how they are taught or because a trained professional needs to teach these areas. We try to ensure that the information in our resources is correct but every school teaches the national curriculum in its own way. If you would like further guidance or are unsure in any way, we recommend that you speak to your child's teacher or another suitably qualified professional.

Expanded Noun Phrases

What Is a Noun Phrase?

A simple **noun phrase** is a group of words, including a noun, that form part of a sentence. The noun is the main word in the phrase and other words give information about it. For example:

a cat

his toy

those shoes

the house

two children

The example **noun phrases** above all contain a determiner and a noun to make a noun phrase. Most noun phrases contain a determiner. In the sentence below, the noun phrase is shown in bold.

Bring **your children** with you.

What Is an Expanded Noun Phrase?

In an **expanded noun phrase**, other words and phrases are used to give further information about the noun in the sentence. This is usually done by adding **adjectives** to describe the noun in the noun phrase, for example:

She walked through the **dark, mysterious** forest.

In the example above, the expanded noun phrase is 'the dark, mysterious forest', the words 'dark' and 'mysterious' have been used to expand the noun phrase. They make writing more interesting as they help the reader to build an image in their mind.

Another noun can also be used to create an expanded noun phrase by giving more detail about the noun, such as:

a teacher = a **maths** teacher

a house = a **country** house

two trees = two **pine** trees

a ship = a **pirate** ship

Another way to create an **expanded noun phrase** is to add a prepositional phrase to add further information about the noun and to enable the writing to be more efficient. For example, where it takes two sentences to say:

The man sat on the bench. He was wearing a red hat.

This can be written more succinctly by expanding the noun phrase with:

The man with the red hat sat on the bench.

Although expanded noun phrases don't formally enter the national curriculum until year 2, you can start helping your child at home by completing the following activities in the steps below.

As well as using the resources in this category and the keyword searches to help your child with expanded noun phrases, a few ideas for games and activities to help your child learn how to use them at home, both in their spoken language and in their writing, are outlined below.

Read, Read, Read!

Sharing books together is the most powerful way for children to learn about language, spelling, grammar and punctuation. As you read together, identify examples of adjectives the writer has used to describe things in the book.

Guess the Character

Picture books can be a great source of inspiration for developing early writing. Choose a favourite picture book and take it in turns to describe a character. The other player has to guess who is being described. This can help your child develop their ability to describe characters which will help when they come to writing.

Opposites

This is a take on the traditional 'I Spy' game but instead of using the first letter of the item, use adjectives to describe it. For example, 'I spy something that is cute, furry and has a waggy tail' (a dog).

Opposites

The aim of this game is to say an opposite adjective (an antonym). For example, if you said 'big', your child would say 'small'. Other examples include: tall/short, wet/dry, near/far, hungry/full, hot/cold, tired/awake.

Step 1

Beginning to Use Description

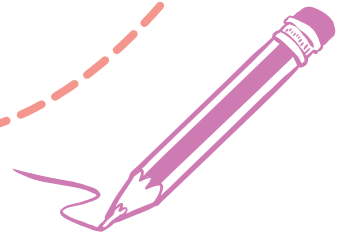
Before being able to write expanded noun phrases, children need to be exposed to lots of description to help develop their vocabulary. The best way to do this is through reading together. The more exposure your child has to descriptive writing, the better! When reading together, focus on the adjectives the writer has used to describe things. For example, when reading Little Red Riding Hood together, you could ask questions such as 'What word did Little Red use to describe Grandma's teeth?' to see if your child can pick out the describing word (adjective).



Identifying Adjectives

You can support your child by helping them to choose appropriate adjectives to describe things. Try giving your child two options and asking them which would be the most appropriate adjective to describe that thing. For example, when reading about the giant in 'Jack and the Beanstalk', you could ask your child if the giant is kind or mean? This will help deepen your child's understanding of adjectives and how to choose appropriate ones for description when it comes to their own writing. Encourage your child to list a range of adjectives for characters in their favourite stories.

Step 2



Step 3

Using Adjectives in Expanded Noun Phrases

You could help your child develop their vocabulary further by making expanded noun phrases. Encourage them to use adjectives when they are describing things. You could make this into a game by placing all of these adjective cards face down and taking it in turns to choose a card before saying an expanded noun phrase with that adjective in. Remember, at this stage, your child doesn't need to know that this is called an expanded noun phrase, you are simply giving them the tools and experience they need to help them when they come to formally learn about expanded noun phrases in year 2.



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Book Club

Twinkl Book Club is our book subscription service. Enjoy our original works of fiction in beautiful printed form, delivered to you each half-term and yours to keep!



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Boost

Twinkl Boost is a range of intervention resources, created to support and lift learning with children at every level. These include our easy-to-use SATs and Phonics Screening resources.



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imagine

Imagine resources are designed to help your children to think creatively, question and imagine. Every week, a new topic consisting of five photos, each with related activities, is created.



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ORIGINALS

Twinkl Originals are engaging stories written to inspire pupils from EYFS to KS2. Designed to encourage a love of reading and help curriculum-wide learning through accompanying resources.



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KIDS' TV

Twinkl Kids' TV is our wonderful YouTube channel dedicated to fun and informative video-style resources full of new and creative activities you can try at home!