

Year 2 Homophones:

A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

This step-by-step explanation to homophones can help you support your child's learning at home. The subject is broken down into manageable chunks, providing you with a simple guide to follow when exploring homophones together, either as part of homework or if you decide to give your child some extra support. Whether your child is beginning to explore homophones in their reading and writing or they are confident with the concept and want to discover more, you will find a step that matches where your child is at as well as some ideas for where to go next.

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 However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date.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.

What Are Homophones?

As your child's confidence in reading and writing increases, they will begin to learn about homophones. 'Homophone' literally means 'same sound'. Homophones are words that are pronounced the same (regardless of how they are spelt) but have different meanings. Examples of homophones include:

hear and here see and sea knight and night

Some homophones have the same pronunciation and the same spelling (homonyms) but have different meanings. Examples include:

bat (mammals with wings) and bat (as in cricket bat)

pen (instrument to write with) and pen (a place where animals are kept)

box (as in a cuboid) and box (as in the sport)

In year 2, your child will start to formally learn about homophones, as outlined in the national curriculum requirements. You can find a suggested list of homophones suitable for year 2 children below, although these are non-statutory and your child may learn all, some or different words to the ones suggested below:

there/their/they're

bare/bear

be/bee

here/hear

one/won

blue/blew

quite/quiet

sun/son

night/knight

see/sea

to/too/two

your/you're

As well as using the resources in this category and the suggested keyword searches to help your child with homophones, a few ideas for games and activities to help your child learn about homophones, their meanings and spellings 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 with your child, point out words that have two meanings and discuss the term 'homophone'. Can they identify other words that have a different meaning when they are spelt differently or even the same way?

Homophones Pairs

Write out pairs of homophones on a piece of paper. Ask questions that will help your child identify the meaning of each word. For example, for be and bee, which one is black and yellow and makes a buzzing noise? Can your child think of their own clues to test you?

Dictation Game

Read a sentence to your child containing one of a pair of homophones. Can they write the correct version of the homophone down on a piece of paper? If you have two players; the first one to write the word correctly gets a point.

Homophone Pictures

Think of a homophone and draw a picture illustrating what it is, for example a bear, hair or a hole. Can your child write the correct version of the word down? Can they think of the homophone that goes with your word, spelling it correctly too? Sign up to Twinkl Go! to play this interactive **Polar Pairs: Homophones** Game. Can your child find matching pairs that have the same spellings but different sounds?

Step 1

What Are Homophones?

In year 2, your child will be formally introduced to the concept of homophones. They will learn that some words can be pronounced the same way but have different meanings and spellings. This presentation includes fun, interactive games to help children build on their knowledge of homophones and practise using them in their reading and writing.



Homophone Definitions

Once your child is confident with the concept of homophones, they can begin to broaden their vocabulary and knowledge of different homophone pairs and sets. This poster can be a fantastic visual aid for children learning to recognise homophones.

Step 2

Step 3

Spelling Homophones

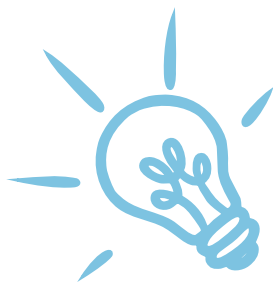
Your child will now learn how to spell different homophones correctly according to their meaning. They will look at common homophones (such as to, too, and two) and other frequently used homophone pairs (such as here and hear). This homophone spelling practice sheet allows children to apply their understanding of the meaning of different words.



Homophones in Sentences

At this stage, your child will be able to use and spell homophones correctly in sentences. They will choose appropriate homophones to use in their writing (such as new and knew), spell these correctly and use them in the right context. This activity requires children to think carefully about the correct word to use in a range of different sentences, helping them to practise their spelling and broaden their vocabulary and writing proficiency further.

Step 4



Explore and Discover More

Twinkl Go! is a digital platform, hosting interactive content such as videos, games, audiobooks and more. Twinkl Go! enables digital content to be streamed to your computer or mobile device.



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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.

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!