


Year 2 Adjectives and Adverbs: A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

This step-by-step explanation to adjectives and adverbs can help you support your child's learning at home. Each subject is broken down into manageable chunks, providing you with a simple guide to follow when exploring adjectives and adverbs together, either as part of homework or if you decide to give your child some extra support. Whether your child is practising using adjectives and adverbs in their writing, or they are comfortable with their uses and want to find out synonyms (words with a very similar meaning), you will find a step that matches where your child is at, then have ideas for where to go next.

Within [this area of the website](#), you'll 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 However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date.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.

Adjectives and Adverbs

What Are Adjectives and Adverbs?

An adjective is a word that describes a noun:

the **colourful** butterfly a **tasty** meal **sunny** Spain

It is used to add extra detail and description in sentences, giving the reader a clearer image of what is being written about.

In year 2, your child will also be introduced to the term 'adverb'. Adverbs are used to describe how something happens. They clarify and give extra detail to a verb, answering questions about where, when, how or how often something happened?

The cat moved **quietly**. "Stop!" he shouted **loudly**.

Adverbs can also be used to 'modify' – or give extra information about – an adjective or another adverb.

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

Read, Read, Read!

Look at a paragraph of your child's reading book together. Pick out the adjectives and adverbs and discuss their effect on building up a picture in the reader's mind.

Mystery Objects

Lay out a selection of small objects from around your home. Take it in turns to choose an item without showing which one you've chosen and describe it using only three adjectives. Can the other person guess your mystery object?

I Spy

Instead of using the familiar 'I spy something beginning with...' try saying, 'I spy something that is _____ and _____', inserting two adjectives as clues.

Play the 'Adverb Game'

Take it in turns to think of an adverb but don't tell your partner. Your partner then asks you to mime an action in the style of the chosen adverb, for example 'dig a hole', 'play the piano', 'climb a mountain'. They have to guess your adverb. Alternatively, your partner can ask you a question and you have to answer in the style of the adverb.

Step 1

What Are Adjectives and Adverbs?

In year 2, your child will build on their knowledge about adjectives from year 1. They will recognise that adjectives are used to describe nouns (objects, people, places, feelings) and will continue to use them in their writing to add detail.

They will also explore other word types, such as adverbs. Adverbs give extra information about a verb, telling us where, when, how or how often an action happens. Many adverbs end in -ly but there are lots of exceptions (for example fast, yesterday, never). Adverbs can also add extra information about adjectives or other adverbs as well as verbs. You can use this presentation to show your child examples of what an adverb is, how to spot one and how they are used in sentences to describe the action.



Adjectives and Adverbs in Sentences

Your child will continue to use adjectives in their creative writing during lessons at school, adding detail to descriptions of characters and settings. They will also start to recognise and experiment with adverbs and learn how these words can add detail to the verb (or action) in the sentence. For example, the girl sat (verb) silently (adverb) on the carpet. Encourage your child to sort these words into different categories before selecting one from each group to make their own sentences.

Step 2



Step 3

Adjective and Adverb Examples

Your child will now collect together a wider variety of different examples of adjectives and adverbs to use in their writing. These word mats are an excellent way of showing your child which words belong to each different word class; adjectives, verbs, nouns or adverbs. Can your child pick a word and use it correctly in a sentence? See if they can say what function the word has in the sentence - i.e. is it a doing word (verb), a naming word (noun), is it describing the noun (an adjective) or describing the verb (an adverb).

Adjective and Adverb Synonyms

At this stage, your child will begin to recognise that many adjectives and adverbs exist to describe a similar thing. For example, they will recognise that when describing something as being small, they could also use the words 'tiny' or 'little'. Or when they are describing how something is happening, for example if someone is walking quickly, they can use alternative adverbs such as 'rapidly' or 'swiftly'. Words with a similar meaning are called synonyms. These prompt cards have a range of synonyms for your child can use to improve their writing.

Step 4



Explore and Discover More

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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!