

# Year 4 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 exploring a range of adventurous adjectives and how to use them, or they are using fronted adverbials to change the structure and layout of sentences, 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 However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date.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.

# Adjectives and Adverbs

## What Are Adjectives and Adverbs?

As your child moves through year 4, they will begin to explore more adventurous and powerful adjectives. They will begin to build up a wider range of adjectives and use more complex expanded noun phrases to give the reader a clearer image of what is happening.

Expanded noun phrases are sentences that add extra nouns and adjectives to clarify and give much more detail:

a house

a **country** house

a **derelict, old country** house

a **derelict, old country** house with **boarded and broken windows**

Your child will begin to understand and use adverbs and adverbial phrases, which are used to answer questions about how, when and where something happened.

| How       | When       | Where           |
|-----------|------------|-----------------|
| quickly   | then       | in the garden   |
| quietly   | secondly   | high above them |
| carefully | eventually | all around them |

As well as using the resources found in this category, and the keyword searches suggested, 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 adjectives and adverbials, both in their spoken language and in their writing.

### Read, Read Read!

Sharing books together is the most powerful way for children to learn about language, spelling, grammar and punctuation. This is a great way for your children to hear powerful, adventurous adjectives and adverbs.

### Go on an Adverbial Hunt

As you explore your home or garden, or when you are out and about, encourage your child to think about and describe where different things are happening. For example, instead of saying "The trolley is in front of us." try rearranging the sentence to "In front of us, the trolley..."

### Interesting Photos 'Tell Me More' Game

Find a selection of photos of a variety of different subjects (e.g. landscapes, views, buildings). Take it in turns to describe something you can see. Each time the person finishes describing something in the photo, set a 'tell me more' challenge. Keep going until there is no other way to describe the object.

### Recipes

Recipes are a great way for your children to explore adverbials of time. As instructions are often written in time order, they regularly use adverbials of time. Why not spend some time baking together? Follow the recipe and note any adverbials of time you spot.

## Step 1

### Expanded Noun Phrases

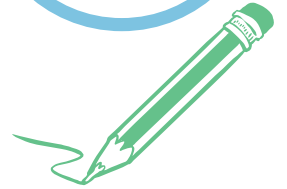
In year 4, your child will begin to use more complex adjectives. They will develop a greater collection of describing words and recognise synonyms and families of words. For example, rather than using soft, they could use adjectives such as doughy, fluffy, spongy, delicate or pliable instead. Your child will begin to explore how they can extend sentences to give more detail and description. You could take a look at the expanded noun phrases in this presentation together with your child, to see how they can be constructed and practise using adventurous adjectives.



### Adverbs and Adverbials

Adverbs and adverbial phrases are words or sentences that describe how, when or where something happens. As they add more information to a verb, adverbs change or clarify a verb. During lessons, your child will begin to collect together banks of adverbs and adverbial phrases that they can use in their own writing. These display posters contain adventurous adverbs for your child to discover, which you could look at together and help them explore.

## Step 2



## Step 3

### Adverbials of Time

As your child's confidence in adverbs increases, they will begin to experiment with using them in different ways. When writing instructions, your child will start to recognise that adverbs of time are used to make it clear the order that the steps are carried out. Adverbs such as first, then, next and finally are used to organise the stages of a recipe into time order. Word mats and posters can be a good way to explore a variety of different adverbs of time, collecting a selection of them and trying to use them in their own work.

### Fronted Adverbials

Sentences can be organised in a variety of different ways. Rather than beginning a sentence with a noun or pronoun (name of a thing or he/she/they/we), your child will begin to use adverbs and adverbial phrases to start sentences. For example, 'The sky **above us** turned dark grey'. We can rearrange this sentence to begin with the adverbial, **above us**. So the sentence becomes, '**Above us**, the sky turned dark grey'. You and your child could explore a variety of activities to practise using adverbials at the beginning of sentences, these are called fronted adverbials.

## 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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Go!



twinkl  
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 children 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!