Congratulations on your purchase of this Really Good Stuff® Words Are CATegorical®: Antonyms, Synonyms, Homonyms and Homophones Banner Set—a humorous look at language through the eyes of author Brian Cleary and illustrator Brian Gable.

This Really Good Stuff® product includes:
- Words Are CATegorical® Banner Set, featuring three mini posters
- This Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide

Assembling and Displaying the Words Are CATegorical®: Antonym, Synonyms, Homonyms and Homophones Banner Set
Before displaying the Words Are CATegorical® Banner, make copies of this Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide, cut apart the reproducibles, and file the pages for future use. Or, download another copy of it from our Web site at: www.reallygoodstuff.com. This unique Banner Set allows you to review antonyms and synonyms, as well as homonyms and homophones in two ways: Either display the Banner intact for a Words Are CATegorical® display or break apart the mini posters into individual presentations for each category of words.

Introducing the Antonym Poster
Point out the Antonym Mini Poster, and if necessary, remind students that an antonym is a word that means the opposite of another word. Have students take turns reading some of the words in the background on the Mini Poster and identifying them as Antonyms. Write some of the words students share from the Mini Poster on a whiteboard or chart paper and then urge students to think of other words to add to the list.

Activities for Antonyms
Illustrating Antonyms
Make one copy of the Illustrating Antonyms Reproducible and label it with eight antonyms on your students’ level. Make and distribute copies and have students write the antonym for each word and draw small pictures to illustrate the words. Challenge older students to use the words in sentences on the back of the paper. Display the papers around the Antonym Mini Poster.

Stand up for Antonyms
Prepare a list of antonyms appropriate for your students’ level. Label index cards with the corresponding antonym and give one card to each student. Read each individual word from the list aloud to the class and have the student with the corresponding antonym stand up and call out his or her word. For younger students, have them orally use the word in a sentence. Challenge older students to use the pair of antonyms in a sentence. Continue the activity until all of the students’ words have been called.

Antonym Bingo
Copy and distribute the Bingo Card Reproducible. Have students write their name at the top and cut apart the markers at the bottom. Choose 24 words and write them on the board, using words from the Banner (see the Word List Reproducible) and from your classroom lessons. While students randomly write the words in the boxes on their reproducible, label small pieces of paper with the letters from the word BINGO and antonyms for the words and place them in a bag. Draw and call out a word, then have students place a marker on a square on the reproducible containing the antonym to the word. Students make a Bingo by covering a row diagonally, horizontally, or vertically with their markers. The first student to call out Antonym wins the game if all of his or her answers are correct.

After students have played several games, laminate copies of the Bingo Card Reproducible, cut off the markers, and place them in a zippered plastic bag. Add a list of antonyms and dry erase markers and place at a literacy center for students to play Antonym Bingo during free time.

Introducing the Synonyms Poster
Point out the Synonyms Mini Poster, and if necessary, remind students that a synonym is a word that has the same or nearly the same meaning as another word. Have students take turns reading some of the words in the background on the Mini Poster and identifying them as Synonyms. Write some of the words students share from the Mini Poster on a whiteboard or chart paper and then urge students to think of other words to add to the list.

Activities for Synonyms
Synonym Match Game
Write grade-level-appropriate synonyms and a corresponding synonym for each on index cards. Give one card to each student and include yourself if there are an odd number of students. Students quietly walk around the room and look for the student with the synonym to their word. Ask each pair of students to share their set of synonyms with the class and use the synonyms in sentences. Have older students be prepared to list additional synonyms as they share. Display the synonym pairs around the Synonyms Mini Poster.

All activity guides can be found online:
Helping Teachers Make A Difference®
Synonym Bingo
Copy and distribute the Bingo Card Reproducible. Have students write their name at the top and cut apart the markers. Choose 24 words and write them on the board using words from the Banner (see the Word List Reproducible) and from your classroom lessons. While students randomly write the words in the boxes on their reproducible, label small pieces of paper with the letters from the word BINGO and synonyms for the words and place them in a bag. Draw and call out a word, then have students place a marker on a square on the reproducible containing the synonym to the word. Students make a Bingo by covering a row diagonally, horizontally, or vertically with their markers. The first student to call out Synonym wins the game if all of his or her answers are correct.

After students have played several games, laminate copies of the Bingo Card Reproducibles, cut off the markers, and place them in a zippered plastic bag. Add a list of synonyms and dry erase markers and place at a literacy center for students to play Synonym Bingo at the center during free time.

Synonym Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down
Gather the synonym index cards from the above synonym match activity and play a game of thumbs up or thumbs down: Place the cards in two piles, arranging them so that when you pick the two top cards and show them to students, some words will be synonyms and some will not. Ask students to get out a pencil and a piece of scratch paper to play the game. Hold up the top two cards and ask students to give you the thumbs up sign if they are synonyms and the thumbs down sign if they are not. After students have responded with a sign, tell them the correct answer and have students give themselves a tally mark if they were correct. At the end of the game, have students count the tally marks and declare the winners.

Activities for Homonyms and Homophones
Homophone and Homonym Rhymes
Share these simple rhymes with students to help them learn the difference between homonyms and homophones:

Homophones are words that are pronounced the same,
But their spelling and meaning are a different game.
Cindy ate a pear that was juicy and sweet.
Mike's new pair of pants look clean and neat.

Homonyms are spelled and pronounced in the same way,
But their meanings are different, like night and day.
Close the trunk of Mother's shiny blue car.
The trunk of that tree is not very far.

Hooray for Homophones and Homonyms
Divide the class into partners and give each pair of students two homophones and two homonyms from the Word List Reproducible along with a piece of paper. Ask students to create two rhyming sentences to complete the last two sentences in the homophone and homonym poems above. Encourage students to have fun with sentences that are silly or serious. To get students started, provide some examples, such as I can clearly see with my two eyes. The beautiful sea was a lovely surprise. Or, The kitchen cupboard was very bare. The baby bear had hardly a care. Ask each pair to share their poems.

Fill in the Homonym
Copy and distribute the Homonym Practice Reproducible. Have students work individually or in pairs to fill in the appropriate homonyms. Write the following word bank on the board for younger students.

jam
bank
bat
fair
drive
roll

Homophone Squares
Divide the class into groups of two or three students. Copy the Homophone Squares Reproducible for each group and label it with four homonyms from the Word List Reproducible. Distribute a reproducible to each group and have them discuss different meanings for each homophone and then compose and write sentences for each meaning.
Illustrating Antonyms Reproducible Bingo Card Reproducible

B I N G O

FREE

Name:

Illustrating Antonyms
Write each antonym and draw a picture to represent each.

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
Homophone Squares Reproducible

Group Members:


Write two sentences for each homophone to show the different meanings:


Homonym Practice Reproducible

Name: _______________________________

After getting out of the traffic ______, I bought a jar of raspberry ______.

Amy walked up the ________ to make a deposit at her ________.

A black ________ landed on top of my baseball ________.

It is not ________ that Ben did not get to come with me to the ________.

Mom put the car in ________ as she drove along the private ________.

David dropped his cinnamon ________ and it began to ________ down the hill.

Write a sentence of your own using two homonyms.

__________________________

Word List Reproducible

Antonyms
up and down
stop and go
big and small
yes and no
front and back
exhale and inhale
left and right
dark and light
rough and smooth
hot and cold
sad and glad
safe and dangerous
heavy and light
vivid and dim
bold and timid
quietly and loudly
shamefully and proudly
kind and unkind
able and unable
heard and unheard
respect and disrespect
possible and impossible
fiction and nonfiction
surrounded and alone
famous and unknown
bold and shy

Synonyms
toss, pitch, or throw
comprehend, grasp, or know
tired, beat, or exhausted
practically or nearly
Gentle, subdued, or tame
plates or dishes
eclipsal bodies or stars
streets or avenues
autos or cars
raided, stormed, or attacked
nippy, freezing, or chilly
yell or hollier
jump or leap
fly or soar
richness or debt
lovely, pretty, or beautiful
car, fleece, or kitten
showering, raining, or pouring
grateful, thankful, or beholden
sneakers or tennis shoes
yellow or golden
master, expert, or wisest

Homonyms
can and can
may and may

cost and coast
toast and toast

light and light


Homophones
prey, prey, and praise
their, there, and they’re
bee and be
flex and flee
burro and burrow
house and horse
eye and you
fowl and fool
toad and tawed
hair, ear, and air
whale and wall
male and mail
pair and pear
burst and buss
Barry, bury, and berry
hand and hond
Mary, merry, and marry
sea and see
ball and bale
mous and mousse
creek and creak
wood and would