

Teacher notes

Year 6 Vocabulary: A story set on board The Beagle

To know how words are related by meaning as synonyms

In this lesson, pupils will investigate how synonyms can be used to improve their descriptions and how to use a thesaurus to find synonyms.

This pack includes:

- › Teacher slides
- › Worksheet
- › Pupils will need access to a thesaurus

Revisit

Look at the words on [slide 3](#) What do the pupils notice about them?

Discuss that the words have similar meanings and mean ‘to look at’. Introduce (or recap) that words with the same or similar meanings are called synonyms.

Teach

[Slide 4](#) shows a collection of words. Ask pupils to organise these words into groups of synonyms. Answers are shown on [slide 5](#).

Show the class a thesaurus. Do they know why we might use one? Demonstrate how to use a thesaurus and ask pupils to use theirs to

find the meanings of the words on *slide 6*. Record synonyms that the pupils find and discuss how these could be used in sentences.

Show *slide 7* and explain how using synonyms can change the meaning of sentences and give a clearer image for their reader. Discuss the example on the slide.

Pupils could use the words from slide 6 and their synonyms to create sentences and discuss how the differing words change the sentences meaning.

Apply

Activity	Teaching points	Notes
1) Synonyms match (shown on slide 8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Pupils will need to match the words given to create groups of synonyms for known, suffer, jerk, travel. Two words are not synonyms. These should be grouped separately and synonyms of these words found using a thesaurus.	
2) Improving writing using synonyms (shown on slide 9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ A paragraph is given with words underlined. Pupils must use their knowledge of synonyms to change the words to improve the paragraph.	
3) Writer's Craft (shown on slide 10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Pupils are given a picture of a ship (which could be the Beagle) in a storm.➤ They should write paragraphs to describe the scene, using their knowledge of synonyms.	