

Useful websites

<http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/literacy/index.htm>

<http://www.schooljotter.com/showpage.php?id=35517>

<http://roythezebra.com/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1bitesize/literacy/>

<http://www.timesspellingbee.co.uk/>

<http://www.starfall.com/n/level-a/learn-to-read/play.htm?f>



The Little Book of Literacy



Some useful terms

Nouns: A noun is the word we use to identify a person, place, object or idea. **Common nouns** are the names of things (table, door). **Proper nouns** and the names of particular people, places or things (Jane, Leicester, Everest).

Pronouns: Pronouns do the same job as nouns but they help to avoid repeating things. (he, she, it, my)

Emma went to the cinema and **she** saw a great film.

He is a great footballer.

Adjectives: An adjective adds detail to a noun. It describes the size, colour, how many, which one, whose, or what kind. The **young** girl lost her **pretty** doll.

Verbs: A verb is a word which expresses actions or states of being. These have a tense which related to when the action took or will take place.

He **jumped** off the wall (past).

I **need** a drink (present).

I **will leave** in two weeks (future).

Adverbs: An adverb is used to modify a verb, an adjective or another adverb. It says in what manner, when, where, and how much.

The teacher spoke **quietly**. (Modifies the verb spoke).

I was **quite** angry. (Modifies the adjective angry).

She was pedalling **too** quickly. (Modifies the verb quickly).

Text Types

Overview of text types for the three genres

Narrative (Fiction)	Non-fiction	Poetry
Adventure	Discussion texts	Free verse
Mystery	Explanatory texts	Visual poems
Science Fiction	Instructional texts	Structured poems
Fantasy	Persuasion texts	
Historical fiction	Non-chronological reports	
Contemporary fiction	Recounts	
Dilemma Stories		
Dialogue		
Myths		
Legends		
Fairy tales		
Fables		
Traditional tales		



Punctuation

A full stop: It marks the end of a sentence.

Capital letters: They are used to show the start of a new sentence.

Commas: A comma is used to indicate a natural pause in a sentence and to separate three or more items in a list.

The cat sat on the mat, then jumped onto the chair.

Rachael has a red, green and blue jumper.

Explanation marks: These are used to replace full stops in sentences which show strong feelings. They are used to show surprise, or fear. They are sometimes used at the end of a sentence that is intended to be funny or where a character is shouting.

No! To get to the other side!

Question marks: These replace the full stop when the sentence is a question.

What time is it?

Colons: They are used to introduce lists.

You will need the following kit: trainers, T-shirt, shorts and towel.

They are also used **to introduce an idea** that is an explanation. The colon can be considered as a gateway inviting the reader to go on.

Have a look at this example:

You are left with only one option: press on until you have mastered it

It is important to note that the clause that comes before the colon can stand alone and make complete sense on its own. If the initial clause cannot stand alone and make complete sense, you should **not** use a colon.

Semi-colons: A semi-colon is used to connect independent parts of a compound sentence where the subject is linked.

The car skidded; the accident was unavoidable.

They are also used in lists where there are long phrases of description.

In my pencil case I have a flexible plastic ruler; a worn out rubber; two slightly sucked sweets and a one pound coin.

Brackets: These are sometimes called parentheses and are used to surround information which give detail to a sentence.

The children will study RE (Religious Education).

Quotation marks or speech marks: These shown when a character is speaking or can be used to show a quote.

“Don’t go,” shouted David.

The spokesman stated, “John Wycliffe School is now open”.

Apostrophes: They indicate when a letter or group of letters have been removed.

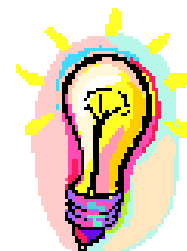
It’s. You’re. They’re. We’re. I’m

Or, they can be used to show possession.

The girl’s bag.

It’s Heather’s coat.

Bullet Points: Often used in presentations to show separate facts.





Alliteration: This is where the writer repeats a sound of consonants within a piece of text. It is often found in poetry and sometimes in adverts to make slogans memorable.

Sally's slippery slug felt slimy.
It's fantastic fun for all the family.

Onomatopoeia: These are words that sound the same as their meaning when they are said out loud.

Buzz, crash, fizz, dong, splash.

Figurative language: This is when a writer uses descriptions that are not literal.

Mary is a real clown.

Simile: A simile is a way of comparing two things to help the reader to imagine something.

The sun was as hot as an oven.
My hands were as cold as ice.

Metaphor: A metaphor is when the writer says one thing is another.

His hair was brown straw. The teacher barked at the pupils.

Personification: Is when the writer gives inanimate objects

Prepositions: A preposition says where something is. (in front of, between, above, next to, with)

She hid **around** the corner.

The box was **under** the table.

Connectives and conjunctions: These are words that join or groups words together. (so, because, therefore, also)

I am going shopping **and** then to the cinema.

Although she was tired, she continued to try her best.

Imperative verbs: An imperative is used to tell someone to do something or ask them to do something. They are "bossy" verbs and you often find them in instructions or recipes. The verb usually is at the start of the sentence.

Stir the mixture.

Pass the football

Rhetorical questions: These are questions that you aren't meant to give an answer to. They are often used to make the reader think. They are often used in persuasive or argument texts and adverts.

How would you feel about that?

How could they be so cruel?

Compound Sentences: These are sentences made of two equally important parts that have been joined together with a connective.

Joe sat down in the chair **and** he read the paper.