

# Year 3 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 confident using adjectives and adverbs in their writing or they want to find out synonyms (words with a very similar meaning) to enhance their writing further, you will find a step that matches where your child is at as well as 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 However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date.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?

An adjective is a word that describes a noun:

the **colourful** butterfly    a **delicious** 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.

By year 3, your child will have also been introduced to the concept of adverbs and will be using them in their writing. 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 **stealthily**. "Who's there?" she asked **anxiously**.

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 adjectives and adverbs, 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.

### Famous Faces

Collect a selection of pictures of well-known people or just write their names on a piece of paper. Take it in turns to pick one of the celebrities and describe them using three adjectives. Can your child guess who you are describing?

### Adjective Swap

Find a great adjective in a story you are reading with your child. Think about another adjective you could use instead. What effect does this have? Think about opposites as well. How does the description of a place or character change if an 'opposite' adjective is used instead?

### Play 'Fortunately, Unfortunately'

This is a great introduction to the concept of fronted adverbials – words or phrases that start a sentence telling you where, when or how something is about to happen. Each sentence must begin alternately with 'fortunately' and 'unfortunately'. For example, 'Fortunately, I went to the beach today.' 'Unfortunately, it rained.' 'Fortunately, I had my umbrella with me.' 'Unfortunately, it had a hole in it,' and so on. This game can get silly very quickly and is great fun. You can also try variations, such as 'happily, sadly', 'luckily and unluckily'.

## Step 1

### Adjectives and Adverbs

In year 3, your child will build on their existing knowledge about adjectives and adverbs. 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 know that 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 (e.g. then, next and soon) which your child will now recognise. Take a look at the adjectives listed on **this word mat**.



### Adjectives and Adverbs in Sentences

Your child will continue to use adjectives and adverbs in their creative writing during lessons at school, adding detail to descriptions of characters, settings and the action of the story. Using adverbs and adjectives correctly adds sophistication to your child's writing as well as helping them to broaden their vocabulary.

**This activity** encourages your child to take a simple sentence and enhance its meaning by adding adjectives and adverbs to increase detail and effect.

## Step 2



## Step 3

### Adjective and Adverb Examples

Your child will continue to collect together a wider variety of different examples of adjectives and adverbs to use in their writing. This helps to broaden their vocabulary as well as to improve the quality of their written work. Our word mats and posters are an excellent visual guide for your child to use as a reference when writing. **This adverb word mat**, for example, clearly breaks adverbs down into groups of adverbs of time, place and manner.

### Adjective and Adverb Synonyms

At this stage, your child will be encouraged to look beyond using 'ordinary' words for adjectives and adverbs and use the 'best words possible'. These are often called 'powerful' adjectives and adverbs – alternative words that have a more vivid impact on the reader. For example, if your child is describing someone walking slowly (adverb), they could use a different adverb such as 'hesitantly' or 'leisurely' to convey the same meaning more vividly. Words with a similar meaning are called synonyms. Can your child use synonyms to improve these sentences?

## 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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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!