

Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

Knots on a Counting Rope
By: Bill Martin Jr.
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: M

Word Work

Instructional Focus:
Adjectives and Adverbs

Background:
Adjectives are describing words. Adjectives nearly always appear immediately before the noun or noun phrase.
Adverbs are describing words. Adverbs answer the questions: how, when, where, or how often.

Examples:

Adjectives
fast
furry
juicy
slow
small
smooth
thick

Materials and Preparation:

- A Copy of *Knots on a Counting Rope*
- Chart Paper
- Adverb Charades Page
- 2 Envelopes
- Adjective Word Work Page
- Optional - Word Detective
- Optional - Index Cards (Step 2)

Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work

Introduce Adverbs and Adjectives

- Explain that there are two ways that we describe things. We use adjectives or adverbs.
- Explain that adjectives are words that describe what kind of person, place, or thing we are talking about and adverbs describe verbs, or action words.
- Make a 2-column chart. Write Adjectives in the first column and Adverbs in the second column.
- Brainstorm adjectives. For example, you might ask the class what the top of their desks feel like – they have smooth desks.
- Next brainstorm adverbs. For example, you might ask the class to describe how they would read during independent reading time – they would read quietly.
- Continue brainstorming adverbs and adjectives. Write the words in the correct column on your chart paper.

Sample Anchor Chart

Adjectives describe nouns	Adverbs describe verbs
smooth	quietly
shiny	carefully
red	later
hard	again
soft	often
heavy	usually
green	possibly
slimy	hopefully
dirty	graciously

Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading

Adverbs and Adjectives in the Text

- Tell the students that the book they will be reading today has a lot of adjectives and adverbs.
- Show them **page 1** of *Knots on a Counting Rope*. Ask students to listen carefully and look at the words while you read. If they hear a word that sounds like it describes something, as them to raise their hands.
- After reading page 1, ask the students to identify the adjectives and adverbs they heard. Add them to the chart paper. Words include: *marry, carefully, last, again*.
- Tell the students that you are going to read the book once from beginning to end. Tell them to be listening for words that rhyme. Remind them to be polite and not to interrupt you while you read.
- Read *Knots on a Counting Rope*.

Examples of Adverbs and Adjectives found in the Text:

carefully	again	never	great
again	dark	stark	blue
many	strange	wild	boy (noid)
better	wounded	heart-pounding	light (day)
last	fast	long	cold
fast	much	soft	good
much	many	two	
sleep			

He has a _____ car. _____ fast.

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Step by Step Lesson Plan

Optional Activity to Extend Engagement

List of words in the book that match the instructional focus

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Step 3: Guided Word Work Practice

Interactive Exploration

- Copy the **Adverb Charades** page.
- Cut apart the adverb words and place them in an envelope marked "Adverbs."
- Cut apart the action phrases and place them in an envelope marked "Actions."
- Explain to the class that you will be playing a game of Adverb Charades. If they do not know how to play charades, explain that they will be acting out how different actions look when you use adverbs.
- Remind students that an adverb is a word that describes an action word?
- Demonstrate how to play the game by drawing one Adverb card and one Action phrase card. For example, if you choose the words, "Angry" and "Sweep the floor." Ask children to act out sweeping the floor angrily. Use the question words as you provide the direction. You might say, "How would you sweep the floor angrily?"
- Version 1: Allow different students to pick Adverb and Action cards to act out. Encourage the whole class to act them out at the same time, or ask a group of children to act out the adverb action. Encourage students to observe how the other students show the action.
- Version 2: Have one student choose an Adverb and Action card to act out for the class. The other students must guess what the student is doing and how he/she is doing it. Give credit for adverbs that are very close to the target word. Whoever guesses correctly gets to choose the next set of cards to act out.
- Version 3: Use just the Adverb cards. Choose one action from the list or otherwise (i.e., doing homework). Then have each child draw one Adverb card. Have them take turns to act out how they would do homework in a way that shows adverbs. See who can guess the adverb.

Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice

Practice Page

- Give each student a copy of **Adjective Word Work**.
- Read the directions with the class.
- Tell the students to complete the practice page.
- Monitor students while they work.

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Interactive Activities

Independent Practice Page

Adverb Charades
Interactive Activity

Directions:
Cut out each verb. Use the cards to play Adverb Charades.

cry	clap	drink
jump	hug	look
walk	spin	clean
sleep	eat	yawn
talk	write	open
sing	run	mix
sweep	type	zip
sit	stand	bark
snap	carry	gather
stomp	read	juggle

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Adjectives
Word Work Practice Page

Directions:
Adjective Hunt: Look around the classroom. Write a noun (person, place or thing) to complete each phrase. Example: A red shoe.

- A red _____
- A soft _____
- A smooth _____
- A large _____
- A sharp _____
- A fat _____
- A noisy _____
- A slipped _____
- A yellow _____
- A tiny _____
- A fall _____
- A beautiful _____
- An old _____
- A delicious _____

Directions:
What I Watch: Write an adjective to complete each sentence below.

- I carry a _____ backpack.
- I like _____ pizza.
- I have a _____ family.
- I love _____ ice cream.
- I go to a _____ school.
- I watch _____ television shows.

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Step 6: Extend Word Work (optional)

Extension Activity

- Ask students to be on the lookout for **adjectives and adverbs** in their own reading. Tell them to write their words on a sticky note and add them to the anchor chart (review the added sticky notes with the class later in the day or before moving on to the next word work lesson).
- Alternatively, students can keep track of the words using the **Word Detective worksheet**.

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Word Detective: Adjectives and Adverbs
Extension Activity

Directions:
Be a word detective!
Be on the lookout for **adjectives and adverbs** while you read. Write the word that you find along with the title of the book where you found the word, the page, and the sentence with the word or phrase.

Word	Book Title	Page	Sentence

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