

# Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

**Word Work**  
By: Roma Gans  
Grade Level: 3 / Guided Reading Level: P

**Instructional Focus:**  
Antonyms

**Background:**  
Antonyms are words that have a meaning that is opposite to another. For example, hot and cold are antonyms.

**Examples:**

Antony
fast
right
run
happy

**Materials and Preparation:**

- A Copy of *Let's Go Rock Collecting*
- Antonyms Anchor Chart
- Antonyms Match Up! Game
- Antonyms Match Up! Student
- Scissors
- Looking for Antonyms Practice
- Optional - Word Detective (1)
- Optional - Chart Paper (see 1)

**Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work**

**Introduce Antonyms**

- Tell students that they are going to learn about a group of words called antonyms. Define antonyms as words that have a meaning that is opposite to another. For example, hot and cold.
- Draw student attention to the Antonyms anchor chart that you created ahead of time.
- Review each of the rows, highlighting the antonym word pairs.
- Prompt students to volunteer additional word pairs that are antonyms. Add student-generated examples to the anchor chart. Discuss non-examples if provided.

**Sample Anchor Chart**

Antonyms		
wet	is the opposite of	dry
old	is the opposite of	young
hard	is the opposite of	soft
back	is the opposite of	front

**Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading**

**Extend Engagement**

- Challenge students to find antonyms in their independent reading.
- Post a large piece of chart paper with the title *Found It!* in a special place in the classroom.
- When students find antonyms in their independent reading, ask them to add the word pair to the *Found It!* chart.
- At the end of the week, review the antonyms that have been added to the chart.

**Antonyms in the Text**

- Tell students that the book *Let's Go Rock Collecting* by Roma Gans has many examples of word pairs that are antonyms.
- Ask students to listen and look for words that are antonyms while you read a page aloud. Prompt students to write down the antonyms they hear or see on a sticky note.
- Read **page 9** aloud. When you have finished reading, ask students to identify any antonyms they heard or saw. Possible antonyms on this page are city/country and streets/farms.
- Read the book from the beginning. Remind students to record any antonyms that they hear or see while you are reading.
- Review the antonyms that students have recorded. Add them to the anchor chart.

**Examples of Antonyms Found in the Text:**

- city/country
- streets/farms
- surface/inside
- hot/cool
- soft/hard
- black/white
- clear/color
- top/bottom
- small/large

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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**

- Distribute copies of the *Antonyms Match Up! Game* (1 per each pair of students).
- Review the directions with students. The first step is to cut out the cards. Next, they will lay the cards face-down in neat rows and columns. Last, each player will take a turn turning over two cards. If the words on the cards are antonyms, they take the cards, place them in a pile, and turn over two more cards. If the words on the cards are not antonyms, the player will turn the cards face-down again, and the next player gets a turn. Play continues this way until all antonym pairs have been made, and no cards remain. The winner is the player with the most cards at the end of the game.
- Provide time for students to play the game. Monitor students while they play and provide support as needed.

**Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice**

**Practice Page**

- Distribute copies of the *Looking for Antonyms* practice page.
- Read the directions aloud while students follow along.
- Direct students to complete the practice page independently.
- Monitor students while they work.

**Step 5: Reconnect and Reflect on Word Work**

**Group Discussion**

- Bring the students back together.
- Ask students to explain what they learned about words based on the work they completed.
- Invite students to turn and talk with a partner about their Word Work.
- Invite 2-3 students to share what they learned with the group.

**Step 6: Extend Word Work (optional)**

**Extension Activity**

- Ask students to be on the lookout for antonyms in their own reading. Tell them to write their words on an index card and add them to the pocket chart. (Review the added cards 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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Interactive Activity

Independent Practice Page

Extension Activity

**Antonyms Match Up! Game**  
Word Cards

**Directions:** Cut out Word Cards.

hot	top	surface
farm	black	small
soft	city	clear

**Antonyms Match Up! Student**

**Materials:** Word Cards  
**Players:** 2 or more

**Directions:**

- Place cards face-down in neat rows.
- Each player will take a turn flipping.
- If the words are antonyms, the player takes two more.
- If the words are not antonyms, the next player takes a turn.
- Play continues until all antonym pairs are made.

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**Looking for Antonyms**  
Word Work Practice Page

**Directions:** Write the words from the Word Bank on the lines to complete the antonym pairs below.

**Word Bank**

inside	street	color
black	hard	large

city \_\_\_\_\_ soft \_\_\_\_\_  
clear \_\_\_\_\_ small \_\_\_\_\_  
surface \_\_\_\_\_ farm \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Rewrite the following sentences using an antonym for the underlined word. Change the word in *italics* to make the new sentence true.

- I love to sleep in the country because it is so quiet at night.
- My last name starts with a "C", so I am always at the bottom of the list.
- A hot drink is delicious in the winter.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Independent Word Work Practice | @BookPagez.com

**Word Detective: Antonyms**  
Extension Activity

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

Words	Book Title	Page

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Word Work Extension Activity | @BookPagez.com