Upgrade your words: answers

Practised: choosing adjectives and verbs that make the meaning clear, and using a or an by the sound of the next word (Year 3).

Page 1 · Warm up

an elephant · **a** kite · **an** umbrella
a zebra · **an** igloo · **a** tiger

Page 2 · Try it together

Answers will vary. For example: "The tall man whispered hello." "It was a warm, sunny day."

Page 2 · A. The word that fits

1. **crept** · 2. **whispered** · 3. **trudged** · 4. **cosy** · 5. **giggled**
Clues: quietly, didn't wake the baby, tired and slowly, soft, tickled.

Page 3 · B. Swap the dull word

Answers will vary, for example: We **reached** (or climbed to) the top of the hill. · The pizza was **delicious**. · Grandma is **kind** (or funny, or generous).

Page 3 · C. Add an adjective

Answers will vary, for example: The **fierce** dragon flew over the **ancient** castle. · Mia found a **tiny** shell on the **sandy** beach. If the adjective starts with a vowel sound, "a" becomes "an": **an** orange shell.

Page 3 · D. The picture

For example: "The shiny rocket zoomed into space."

Challenge: No. "A" or "an" depends on the word straight after it. That word is "juicy", which starts with a "j" sound, so it is **I ate a juicy orange.** Without "juicy" it would be "an orange".

Watch out for

- **Dull words** like nice, good and got. Ask "What do you really mean? Nice how?"
- **Mixing up a and an**, as in "a orange". Say both aloud and hear which is easier.
- **Exciting words that don't fit**, like a mouse that "stomped". Ask "Does it match what happened?"

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Upgrade the word:** say a plain sentence and take turns swapping in better words, aloud.
- **A or an snap:** name things around you ("an egg", "a cup") and check each one together.
- **In the game:** Chapter 5, Join it up, links two ideas with joining words like because and when.