Find the noun: answers and notes

What your child practised: what a noun and a noun phrase are, and how to find the noun inside a noun phrase, like **dog** in **the big dog** (Year 2 grammar).

Page 1 · Warm up

the **cat** · a red **hat** · some hot **soup**

Page 2 · Try it together

Answers will vary. The ringed word should name the thing from the bag: "a soft **sock**", "a shiny **spoon**".

Page 2 · A. Ring the noun

ball · **dog** · **apple**
tree · **fish** · **hat**

Page 3 · B. Colour the nouns

kite, **cake**, **boat**, **garden**. Not nouns: the, a, some (little pointing words) and happy, soft, tiny (describing words).

Page 3 · C. Finish with a noun

Any noun that makes sense, matching the drawing. For example: a shiny **coin** or **star**; the tall **giraffe** or **tower**; some tiny **ants** or **seeds**.

Challenge: No, Sam isn't right. **Red** tells us more about the kite: its colour. Ask "a bright red *what*?" The answer, **kite**, is the noun. You could draw a kite, but you can't draw just "red" on its own as a thing.

Watch out for

- **Ringing "a" or "the".** These little words point to the noun but don't name anything. Ask: "Could you draw a 'the'?"
- **Ringing the describing word** (big, red, spotty). Use the "what?" question: "the spotty *what*?" The answer is the noun.
- **More than one thing**, like "some tiny ants". The noun is still the naming word: **ants**.

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Noun spotter:** on a walk, take turns saying a noun phrase for something you pass ("a muddy puddle"). The other person shouts just the noun.
- **Silly swap:** say a noun phrase and swap the noun for a silly one: "a fluffy cat" becomes "a fluffy bus". Which word changed the thing?
- **In the game:** Chapter 2, "Describe it: adding adjectives, like the blue butterfly", adds describing words before the noun.