Name _____ Date _____

Before, during, after

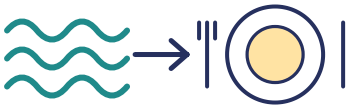
Small time words that tell us **when** something happens.

1 Learn



before, **during** and **after** are **prepositions of time**. They link what happens to a time or an event, like **before school** or **during the film**.





Fill the gap: Mia went swimming _____ lunch.

Step 1. Find the event the time word links to: **lunch**.

Step 2. Was the swim earlier or later than lunch? **Earlier.**

Step 3. Earlier means **before**: Mia went swimming **before** lunch.

Flip's tip: before = earlier, **after** = later, **during** = in the middle of it, while it is going on. If you get muddled, ask: **"Which happened first?"**

Warm up: draw a ring round the time word in each sentence.

We ate popcorn during the film.

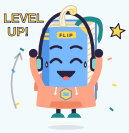
Leo brushes his teeth after breakfast.

Wash your hands before lunch.

Grown-ups: point at the picture and ask, "What do you do before school? After school?" Use the words in everyday talk too: "We'll go to the shop after lunch."

Name _____ Date _____

2 Try it together a child and a grown-up, about 10 minutes



My day in order

You need: 6 scraps of paper (or sticky notes) and a pencil.

1. On each scrap, write or draw one thing you do on a school day (breakfast, school, tea…).
2. Lay the scraps in a line on the table, from morning to night.
3. The grown-up points to two scraps. Say a sentence about them with **before** or **after**: "I have my bath **after** tea."
4. Find something you do **during** one of them: "I chat **during** tea."
5. Swap! The grown-up says sentences, sometimes mixing up before and after. Catch the mistakes!
6. Write your three best sentences below.

_____

_____

_____

Grown-ups: if your child mixes up before and after, put a finger on the first scrap and say "this one is earlier, so it comes **before**". Moving the scraps around helps them see it.

3 Practise

A. Here is Ava's Saturday, in order. Write **before** or **after** in each gap.



1. breakfast → 2. swimming → 3. lunch → 4. park → 5. bath

1. Ava had breakfast _____ swimming.
2. Ava went to the park _____ lunch.
3. Ava went swimming _____ lunch.
4. Ava had a bath _____ her trip to the park.

Before, during, after

Name _____ Date _____

B. Choose **before**, **during** or **after** to fill each gap.

1. Put your socks on _____ your shoes.
2. We have pudding _____ our dinner.
3. The baby slept _____ the whole car journey.
4. Sam has a bath _____ bedtime.
5. Mum read her book _____ the long train ride.

C. Fix the mix-up! Each has the wrong time word. Write it again correctly.

1. I dry myself with a towel **before** my bath.

_____

2. Leo put his helmet on **after** his bike ride.

_____

D. Write your own sentences about your weekend.

before _____

during _____

after _____

Challenge

Mia says, "I had lunch **after** my swim. So my swim was **before** my lunch!" Is she right? Can you say a sentence about your day **two ways**, once with before and once with after?

_____

_____

I can… Tick when you can.

- ☐ use **before** to say something happens earlier
- ☐ use **after** to say something happens later
- ☐ use **during** to say something happens in the middle of something else