Name _____ Date _____

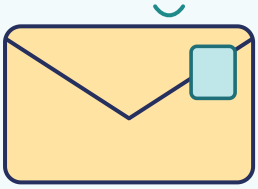
Story words

Learn what useful story words mean, and use them yourself.

1 Learn



Some words turn up in lots of stories. Learn what they mean, and you can use them in your own writing too!



Word	**peculiar**
It means	strange or unusual
Similar words	odd, strange, weird
Opposite	ordinary, normal
In a sentence	A **peculiar** parcel arrived. It was ticking!

Make a new word your own: describe

1. **Say it** in parts: de-scribe.
2. **Learn the meaning:** to say or write what something is like.
3. **Don't mix it up** with **decide**, which sounds a bit similar but means to make a choice.
4. **Use it about you:** "Can you **describe** your bedroom? It's small, blue and full of books."

Flip's tip: to remember a new word, use it three times today: say it, write it, and use it in a sentence about your own life.

Warm up: draw lines to match each word to its meaning.

notice ●	● make a choice
imagine ●	● see or spot something
decide ●	● picture something in your mind

Grown-ups: all seven words are on the word list for Years 3 and 4, so your child will learn to spell them too. Using them in everyday chat helps them stick far more than learning definitions.

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



Word charades

You need: 7 scraps of paper, a pencil and a cup or bowl.

1. Write the seven story words on the scraps: notice, peculiar, imagine, decide, surprise, describe, promise. Fold them into the cup.
2. Take turns to pick one. Act it out, or explain it without saying the word.
3. When someone guesses it, each make up a sentence with the word about your day.
4. Write your favourite sentence for each word in the table.

Word	Our sentence
notice	
peculiar	
surprise	

Grown-ups: for acting, "peculiar" can be a funny walk and "surprise" a big gasp. Model your own sentences first: "I noticed the cat was asleep on the washing again."

3 Practise

A. Fill each gap with a word from the box. Use each word once.

notice | peculiar | imagine | decide | surprise | describe | promise

1 Mum made me _____ to tidy my room.

2 Can you _____ what the monster looked like?

3 I can't _____ which cake to choose!

4 Did you _____ the new shop on our road?

5 The party was a big _____ for Gran.

6 Close your eyes and _____ you are on a beach.

7 There was a _____ smell coming from the fridge.

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B. Ring the word that means **the same** as the word in bold.

1 **peculiar** ordinary odd tiny

2 **notice** spot forget hide

3 **decide** describe choose wait

4 **imagine** picture ignore shout

C. Write a sentence about your own life using each word.

surprise

promise

D. Describe something peculiar you could find in a parcel. Use at least two story words.

Challenge

Ava says **"peculiar means ordinary"**. Is she right? What would you tell her?

_____

I can… Tick when you can.

- [ ] explain what notice, peculiar, imagine and decide mean
- [ ] tell describe and decide apart
- [ ] use story words in my own sentences