Name _____ Date _____

Sound-alike words

Words with two meanings, and homophones like here and hear.

1 Learn



Some words have **two meanings** but one spelling, like **bark**. **Homophones** sound the same but have **different spellings** and meanings, like **here** and **hear**. The sentence tells you which one you need.

Two meanings, one spelling



bark
the outside of a tree



bark
the sound a dog makes

Homophones: two spellings



here
in this place (like there, where)



hear
listen with your **ear**

Which bat? The bat flew out of the cave as night fell.

1. **Bat** can mean a flying animal, or something you hit a ball with.
2. Look for clues: **flew**, **cave**, **night**.
3. A cricket bat can't fly out of a cave by itself, so this bat is **the animal**.

Flip's tip: hear has an **ear** in it, and you hear with your ear. **Here** is a place word, spelt like **there** and **where**.

Warm up: write **here** or **hear**.

Come over _____! Can you _____ the birds?

Grown-ups: homophones such as here/hear, meet/meat and peace/piece are on the Year 3 and 4 spelling list. Words like bark and bat (one spelling, two meanings) are sometimes called homonyms.

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2 Try it together

a child and a grown-up, about 10 minutes



Double-mime

You need: just yourselves and a pencil. Space to move about helps!

1. The grown-up says a two-meaning word: **bat**, **wave**, **ring**, **light**, **park** or **rock**.
2. The child mimes the **first** meaning. The grown-up guesses it.
3. Now the child mimes the **second** meaning. Can the grown-up guess that one too?
4. Swap roles. Then make up one silly sentence that uses both meanings: "I waved at the wave."

Word	Meaning 1	Meaning 2

Grown-ups: for a homophone round, try "I can hear you over here!" and "Let's meet for meat pie." Ask your child which spelling goes with which meaning.

3 Practise

A. Which meaning is used? Ring **a** or **b**.

1 The boat rocked on a big **wave**.

a: moving your hand to say hello b: water rising in the sea

2 This bag is so **light** I can lift it with one finger.

a: not heavy b: something that shines

3 I heard the phone **ring**.

a: a band worn on a finger b: a sound like a bell

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B. Ring the right homophone.

1 We will (meet / meat) at the school gate.

2 Can I have a (peace / piece) of cake?

3 The lion shook its shaggy (main / mane).

4 Oh no, I (missed / mist) the bus!

5 The (plane / plain) flew above the clouds.

C. Write a sentence for each word to show its meaning.

here

hear

D. **Park** has two meanings. Write one sentence for each.

Challenge

Sam wrote: **"I can here the rain on the roof."** Is he right? How could Flip's tip help him?

I can…

Tick when you can.

- [ ] use clues to pick the right meaning of a word like bat or bark
- [ ] choose between here and hear
- [ ] spell homophones like meet and meat correctly