Similar meanings: answers and notes

What your child practised: knowing that synonyms are words with the same or nearly the same meaning, finding them, and checking them with the swap test.

Page 1 · Warm up (any sensible synonym)

small: **little** · quick: **fast** · begin: **start** · angry: **cross**

Page 2 · Tired words

Answers will vary. E.g. said: replied, whispered, muttered.

Page 2 · A. Match the synonyms

shout – **yell** · brave – **courageous**
rapid – **fast** · miserable – **sad**
tiny – **minute** (said "my-NEWT")

Page 3 · B. Odd one out

1. **smile** (linked only) · 2. **warm**
3. **eye** (linked only) · 4. **energetic**

Page 3 · C. Swap the word (examples)

1. old · 2. snatched, seized · 3. smart, cunning

Page 3 · D. Synonyms for said

E.g. replied, whispered, shouted, muttered, called.

Challenge: No. Smile is **linked** to happy, but it doesn't mean the same thing: happy is a feeling, a smile is something your face does. Synonyms of happy are glad, pleased or joyful.

Watch out for

- **Picking an opposite** (warm for cold). Ask "Does it mean the same, or the opposite?"
- **Picking a linked word** (smile for happy, eye for look). Linked words belong to the same topic but don't mean the same. Use the swap test.
- **Changing the type of word.** A synonym of an adjective is usually an adjective too: happy → glad, not happiness.

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Teatime synonyms:** pick a tired word like "nice" or "said" and take turns naming synonyms until someone runs out.
- **Synonym chain:** big → large → huge → enormous… How long can you keep the meaning going?
- **In the game:** Chapter 2 moves on to antonyms, words with opposite meanings, like big and little.