

Synonyms and Antonyms — Expanding Vocabulary Through Relationships

Base Sheet

Activity Sheet

The child explores synonyms (words with similar meanings) and antonyms (words with opposite meanings), building a richer vocabulary for both speaking and writing.

What You Need:

- Synonym and antonym word cards
- Paper and pencil
- Thesaurus (child-friendly, optional)
- Colored pencils

Steps:

1. 'Words are like people — they have friends and opposites! SYNONYMS are word friends (they mean almost the same thing). ANTONYMS are word opposites.'
2. Synonyms: big/large/huge/enormous, small/tiny/little/minature, happy/glad/giddy/delighted.
3. These words are NOT exactly the same — huge is bigger than big! Choosing the RIGHT synonym makes your writing more precise.'
4. Antonyms: hot/cold, big/small, fast/slow, happy/sad, light/dark, loud/quiet.
5. Play Synonym Swap: read a sentence, replace a word with a stronger synonym. 'The dog was big!' → 'The dog was enormous!'
6. Play Antonym Match. Match antonym pairs from cards.
7. The child writes 5 sentences using interesting synonyms instead of common words.

Work Space:

A large, dashed rectangular border occupies the bottom half of the page, intended for the child to write their five sentences using synonyms.

Montessori Homeschool • Print on US Letter (8.5 x 11") • Activity sheet — print on standard paper