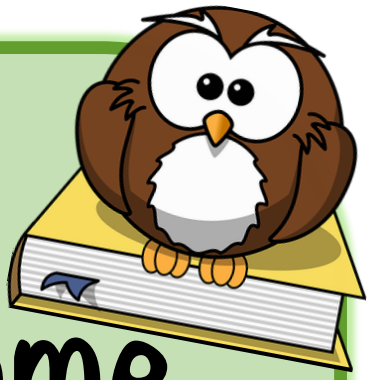
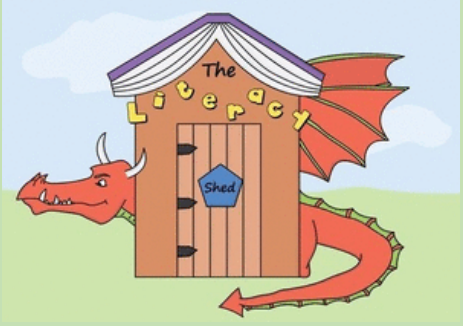


Improve worrisome words

Improve vocabulary by checking and changing the quality of your word choices- particularly verbs, adjectives and adverbs.

Can you expand your noun phrases?

Have you been precise?



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Improving Vocabulary Choices

1) Use a coloured pen/pencil and underline vocabulary that you think could be improved. Be selective. Choose adjectives, adverbs and verbs which you think need to be polished.

e.g. Big, happily, walked.

2) Use a thesaurus to select better synonyms.

3) Road test your synonyms first. Try saying the sentence once you have made a vocabulary swap. Has it improved? Has the meaning stayed the same? Do you need to select a different word? Do you need to re-order your sentence?

4) Check the precision of your nouns. Sometimes a change of word can really help the reader to picture EXACTLY what you mean.

e.g. She got into a car.

She got into a taxi.

She got into a limousine.

5) Try not to use words you are unfamiliar with unless you find out their meaning first.

6) Don't 'overdo' it. Too many changes can make your writing difficult to read.

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