

Helping you choose books for children



0-5



5-7



7-9



9-12



12+

opening extract from

Oxford Junior Thesaurus

written by

Sheila Dignen

published by

Oxford University Press

All text is copyright of the author and illustrator

please print off and read at your leisure.

bed noun



WORD WEB

some types of bed

- a berth (a bed on a ship)
- a bunk (one of two beds on top of each other)
- a cot (a bed with sides for a baby)
- a four-poster bed (a bed with curtains around it)
- a hammock (a piece of cloth that you hang up and use as a bed)

beg verb

We **begged** him to let us go.

- **to plead with** We pleaded with him to let us go.
- **to ask**
- **to implore** We implored him to let us go.

begin verb

1 The little girl **began** to laugh.

2 What time does the film **begin**?

- **to start**
- **to commence**

OPPOSITE end

beginning noun

I was scared at the **beginning** of the film.

- **the start**
- **the opening**

OPPOSITE ending

behave verb

1 She was **behaving** rather strangely.

- **to act**

2 Make sure you **behave** at the party.

- **to be good**
- **to behave yourself**
- **to be on your best behaviour**

behaviour noun

The children's **behaviour** was excellent.

- **conduct**
- **manners**
- **attitude**

belief noun

People have different religious **beliefs**.

- **a faith**
- **an opinion**
- **a view**

believe verb

1 I don't **believe** you.

- **to trust**

2 I **believe** that she is innocent.

- **to think**
- **to be sure**
- **to be convinced**

3 The ancient Greeks **believed** in many gods.

- **to have faith in**
- **to put your faith in**

bell noun



WRITING TIPS

Here are some useful words for writing about bells.

- The school bell **rings** at ten to nine.
- The grandfather clock in the hall **chimes** every hour.
- The sleigh bells **jingled** as we rode along.
- The tiny bells on the Christmas tree **tinkled** as I walked past.
- The huge church bell began to **toll**.

belong verb

1 This book **belongs** to me.

- **to be owned by**

2 Ali **belongs** to the football club.

- **to be a member of**
- **to be in** Ali is in the football club.

3 These pencils **belong** in the cupboard.

- **to go**

belongings noun

Be sure to take your **belongings** when you get off the train.

- **possessions**
- **property**
- **things**

bend noun

There are a lot of sharp **bends** in this road.

- **a corner**
- **a turn**
- **a twist**
- **a curve**

bend verb

1 He **bent** the wire into the correct shape.

- **to twist**
- **to curve**
- **to curl**
- **to coil**
- **to wind**

OPPOSITE straighten

2 She **bent** down to tie her shoelaces.

- **to stoop**
- **to crouch**
- **to duck**

bent adjective

The back wheel of the bicycle was **bent**.

- **twisted**
- **crooked**
- **distorted**
- **warped**

OPPOSITE straight

best adjective

She is the **best** swimmer in the world.

- **finest**
- **greatest**

• **number-one**

• **top**

OPPOSITE worst

better adjective

Tom has been ill, but he's **better** now.

- **all right**
- **recovered**
- **cured**

beware verb

Beware of the dog.

- **to be careful of**
- **to watch out for**

bicycle noun

- **a bike**
- **a cycle**



WORD WEB

some types of bicycle

- a mountain bike
- a racing bike
- a tandem (for two people)
- a tricycle (with three wheels)
- a unicycle (with one wheel)

big adjective



OVERUSED WORD

Try to vary the words you use to mean **big**. Here are some other words you can use instead.

1 He put the books into a **big** box.

- **large**
- **huge**
- **enormous**
- **massive**
- **gigantic**
- **colossal**

Use **large** with the same meaning as **big**:

There was a **large** wooden →

a

b

c

d

e

f

g

h

i

j

k

l

m

n

o

p

q

r

s

t

u

v

w

x

y

z