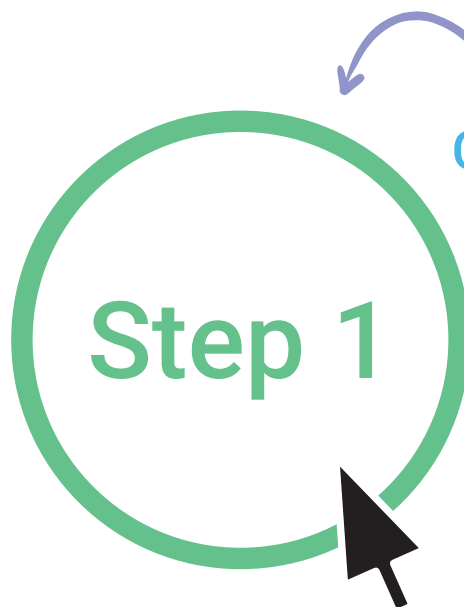


Year 4 Expanded Noun Phrases: A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

This step-by-step explanation to year 4 expanded noun phrases can help you support your child's learning at home. The subject is broken down into manageable chunks, providing you with a simple guide to follow when learning about expanded noun phrases together, either as part of homework, or if you decide to give your child some extra support. In this guide, you will find a step that matches your child's stage of learning and it will also offer you next steps for your child's learning.

Within **this area of the website**, you will find a selection of resources intended to help your child learn about each step of this guide. Each step also contains a keyword or phrase that you can use to search the Twinkl site for more resources and activities, designed to support your child in achieving that stage. Simply type the keyword or phrase into the search bar and press enter to explore together.

adding expansion after the noun phrase



Click here



We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. The contents of this resource are for general, informational purposes only. This guide is intended to offer parents general guidance on what subject areas tend to be covered in their child's year group and where they could support their children at home. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. There are some subject areas that we have intentionally not covered due to the nature of how they are taught or because a trained professional needs to teach these areas. We try to ensure that the information in our resources is correct but every school teaches the national curriculum in its own way. If you would like further guidance or are unsure in any way, we recommend that you speak to your child's teacher or another suitably qualified professional.

Expanded Noun Phrases

What Is a Noun Phrase?

A simple **noun phrase** is a group of words, including a noun, that form part of a sentence. The noun is the main word in the phrase and other words give information about it. For example:

a cat

his toy

those shoes

the house

two children

The example **noun phrases** above all contain a determiner and a noun to make a noun phrase. Most noun phrases contain a determiner. In the sentence below, the noun phrase is shown in bold:

I bought **two jumpers**.

What Is an Expanded Noun Phrase?

In an **expanded noun phrase**, other words and phrases are used to give further information about the noun in the sentence. This is usually done by adding **adjectives** to describe the noun in the noun phrase, for example:

She walked through the **dark, mysterious** forest.

In the example above, the noun phrase is 'the forest' and the words 'dark' and 'mysterious' have been used to expand the noun phrase. They make writing more interesting as they help the reader to build an image in their mind. Further examples are:

The **glistening** snow sparkled in the **bright** sunshine.

Jason saw a **large, ferocious** T. Rex at the **dinosaur** park.

Another noun can also be used to create an **expanded noun phrase** by giving more detail about the noun, such as:

a teacher = a **maths** teacher

a house = a **country** house

two trees = two **pine** trees

a ship = a **pirate** ship

Another way to create an expanded noun phrase is to add a prepositional phrase to add further information about the noun and to enable the writing to be more efficient. For example, where it takes two sentences to say:

The man was sat on the bench. He was wearing a red hat.

This can be written more succinctly by expanding the noun phrase with:

The man with the **red hat** sat on the bench.

Expanded noun phrases are formally introduced in year 2 to help children begin to develop their descriptive writing skills. In years 3 and 4, children are encouraged to continue using expanded noun phrases in their independent writing in class. They will also be expected to use a larger variety of interesting adjectives as their vocabulary increases.



You can use the resources in this category and the suggested keyword searches to help your child with expanded noun phrases. A few ideas for games and activities to help your child learn how to use expanded noun phrases at home, both in their spoken language and in their writing are also outlined below.

Thesaurus Hunt

Introduce your child to a thesaurus and what it is used for. Think of a word and ask your child to find synonyms (other words that mean the same) in the thesaurus. Then challenge them to use one of the synonyms five times throughout the day. This will help broaden their vocabulary for descriptive writing.

I Spy Adjectives?

The first player says 'I spy, with my little eye, something that is ...' and uses five adjectives to describe the object they can see (e.g. the colours, shape, size). The other player(s) have to guess what the object is by the description.

Read, Read, Read!

Sharing books together is the most powerful way for children to learn about language, spelling, grammar and punctuation. As you read together, identify examples of adjectives the writer has used to describe things in the book. Talk about how they help paint a picture in the readers mind.

Opposites

The aim of this game is to say an opposite adjective (an antonym). For example, if you said 'big', your child would say 'small'. Other examples include: tall/short, wet/dry, near/far, hungry/full, hot/cold, tired/awake.



Step 1

Looking at Examples of Expanded Noun Phrases

Although expanded noun phrases are first introduced in year 2, they are revised and practised in each subsequent year group to help children remember how to write them. If your child needs a little practise to revise expanded noun phrases, you could begin by asking them to think of adjectives to describe things or images. This activity supports your child to create expanded noun phrases about a Christmas scene.

Step 2

Expanding Noun Phrases with Adjectives

Once children are familiar with expanded noun phrases, they can begin to include them in their independent writing (for example when describing a character or a scene in a picture). These worksheets give your child the opportunity to practise writing their own noun and expanded noun phrases.

Step 3

Writing Expanded Noun Phrases Independently

The next step in expanded noun phrases is to add a prepositional phrase after the noun. A prepositional phrase describes where something is or when something is in relation to something else, for example:

Two pine trees **in the middle of the lake**.

A pirate ship **on the still, calm ocean**.

Prepositional phrases can also be adverbs which modify the verb, for example:

The teacher **with a fluffy moustache**.

A country house **with broken windows**.

Your child could work their way through these activity sheets to help them recognise and use prepositions in their writing and reading.

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Twinkl Book Club is our book subscription service. Enjoy our original works of fiction in beautiful printed form, delivered to you each half-term and yours to keep!



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Boost

Twinkl Boost is a range of intervention resources, created to support and lift learning with children at every level. These include our easy-to-use SATs and Phonics Screening resources.



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imagine

Imagine resources are designed to help your children to think creatively, question and imagine. Every week, a new topic consisting of five photos, each with related activities, is created.



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ORIGINALS

Twinkl Originals are engaging stories written to inspire pupils from EYFS to KS2. Designed to encourage a love of reading and help curriculum-wide learning through accompanying resources.



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KIDS' TV

Twinkl Kids' TV is our wonderful YouTube channel dedicated to fun and informative video-style resources full of new and creative activities you can try at home!