

Figurative Language

November 2, 2021

Learning Targets

- Understand the difference between Figurative Language and Literal Language
- Identify the following types of Figurative Language:
 - Similes
 - Metaphors
 - Personification
- Priority Standard Focus: L 7.5 (Language)
 - Demonstrate understanding of figurative language and nuances in word meaning

Literal Language vs. Figurative Language

Literal Language

- You say exactly what you mean.
- You make no comparison.
- You do not exaggerate or understate the situation.
- As the saying goes, "It is what it is."

Bob likes to wake up early in the morning.

Sally does not get upset easily.

The waterfall trickled down the rock.

VS

Figurative Language

- You DON'T say exactly what you mean.
- You DO compare, exaggerate, and understate the situation.
- It takes some effort to figure it out.
- Used to emphasize and help readers visualize.

Bob is an early bird.

Sally is as cool as a cucumber.

The waterfall did cartwheels down the rock.

Do you use “literally” wrong?

Bet!

- I am literally starving.
- I am literally dead.

Do you have any other examples of people using “literally” wrong?

Similes

- Compare two unlike things using the words “like” or “as”

- Examples:
 - Her eyes sparkled like diamonds.
 - The boy ran as fast as a cheetah.

Can you think of a simile?

Metaphors

- Compare two unlike things without using “like” or “as.”
- Saying one thing is something else.
- Describing one thing as another.
- Examples:
 - He is a bear in the morning.
 - She is a snake in the grass.

Can you think of a metaphor?

Personification

- Giving human characteristics to things that are not human.
- Turning things into a person = personification
- Examples:
 - The dolphins danced in the water.
 - The sun smiled down on the children playing below.

Can you think of an example of personification?

Group Activity

- With your table groups, read your children's book and look for examples of figurative language using the worksheet.
- Convert examples of figurative language to literal language.
- Discuss how the atmosphere (the feeling you get as you read) changes when figurative language becomes literal language.
- Create a poster to display three (3) of your converted examples.
 - Use your creativity to show the differences!

Bonus Challenge – Add the theme of your story to your poster!

Poster Checklist (Rubric)

- First and last names of group members on the back (5 Points)
- Title and Author of Book (5 Points)
- (3) Examples – Figurative Language vs. Literal Language (10 Points each)
 - Make sure to include complete sentences!
- Creativity (5 Points)
- Explanation of change in atmosphere (or feeling) (5 Points)
- Theme (Extra Credit – 5 Points)
- TOTAL = 50 Points (55 Points with extra credit)

Independent Practice

- Get out your headphones..
- Watch the video at the web address below:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J4MhnxKGfag>
- Write down as many examples of similes, metaphors and personification as you can.
- When you are finished, turn it in!