

TFB3 Program Overview

(*****links to see the [resource list](#) for each part of speech)

Welcome to the Flock and Taking Flight Book 3!

This is a mastery-based program designed to develop a keen “Word Sense” among both teachers and students. What is Word Sense? It is a deep, conceptual understanding of the underlying patterns in the English language that provide the framework for purposefully and creatively employing the eight parts of speech in order to communicate effectively and increase reading comprehension. At Level 3 students review all the same concepts in level 2 (but answers always differ because their vocabulary and skills are always improving). Creative repetition allows the students to have fun and keep learning. Feel free to add complexity by introducing content area vocabulary. Students will solidify their knowledge relating to linking verbs and will focus on those verbs that can be both active or linking. They will also be introduced to adjective and adverbial prepositional phrases, which sets them up for success when they move on to clauses. Finally, they are introduced to some sentence-combining activities and Homonyms.

Word Sense Practices

- Demonstrate the use of precise language when discussing language concepts.
- Strategically employ the eight parts of speech while understanding the underlying structure of the English language in all content areas.
- Demonstrate the ability to express the same thoughts and ideas in a variety of ways depending on audience and purpose.
- Demonstrate an understanding that words can be used to make an impact on others in the world in which we live.
- Demonstrate an ability to construct effective arguments using a variety of rhetorical strategies and respond to the arguments of others.
- Demonstrate an enjoyment in the ability to effectively express thoughts in both the written and spoken word.

Program Order and Length

Estimated Days: 65–100 days

Sentence Introduction Length of Unit: 1–2 days

Nouns Length of Unit: 6–9 days

Verbs Length of Unit: about 23–45 days

Adjectives Length of Unit: 4–6 days

Adverbs Length of Unit: 4–8 days

Prepositions Length of Unit: 4–7 days

Pronouns Length of Unit: 8–13 days

Conjunctions Length of Unit: about 7 days

Interjections Length of Unit: about 6 days

Sentence Unit Overview

A sentence is a group of words that has a subject and a verb and expresses a complete thought. A sentence also includes a predicate, which includes the verb and any other words that explain what the subject is or what the subject is doing. It's important to remember that every sentence starts with a capital letter and ends with a punctuation mark.

Sentences are how we communicate in the English language. At this level, we will focus on simple sentences and the basic parts of speech that make up these sentences. As students continue to grow and master the definition of a sentence, understand the basic sentence patterns, and how the parts of speech work within those patterns, they develop the knowledge and skills necessary to become both proficient writers and readers.

Sentence Unit Learning Objectives

By the end of this unit, students will be able to

- Define a sentence
- Demonstrate the definition of a sentence
- Associate Norm the Noun and the color blue with subjects
- Associate Vern the Verb and the color orange with verbs

Length of Unit: 1–2 days

Average Lesson Length: 30–40 minutes

Sentences: Lesson Plans (2 scripted lesson, 2 activities, 1 kinesthetic activity)

Sentences: Resource List ***** (4 additional resources)

Nouns Unit Overview

Nouns are words that represent people, places, things, and ideas. They are the essential building blocks of language and serve as naming words in sentences. The term “noun” originates from the Latin word “nomen”, which means “name.” Understanding nouns and their functions is crucial for developing readers and writers.

In this unit, we delve into the various aspects of nouns. We’ll review their different types (person, place, thing, idea), review forms (singular, plural, common, proper), and introduce new forms (compound and collective). Through engaging movement, lessons, and activities, students will develop a comprehensive understanding of nouns and their significance in language while also developing strong vocabulary and sight-word skills. The activities identified in this unit should be constantly revisited and reviewed throughout the entirety of the school year.

Noun Unit Learning Objectives

By the end of this unit students will be able to...

- Define a noun as a person, place, thing, or idea
- Categorize nouns as people, places, things, and ideas
- Recognize the difference between singular and plural nouns
- Define a compound noun as a noun made up of two individual nouns
- Define a collective noun as singular noun representing a group of individual nouns

Length of Unit: 5-9 days

Average Lesson Length: 30-40 minutes

Nouns: Lesson Plans (3 scripted lessons, 19 additional activities, and 1 kinesthetic activity)

Nouns: [Resource List](#) ***** (50 resources for lesson plans, including assessments)

Verbs Unit Overview

A verb is a word that expresses an action or state of being. It is the anchor of the predicate and explains the subject's state of being or the action in a sentence. This unit is the heart of the whole program! This is the longest and most in-depth section of the entire course. When students understand how verbs function, they can understand the sentence structures within the English language. At this level, students will review what a verb is and the difference between action and state of being or linking verbs, they will also be focusing on the differences between phrases and clauses. They will begin to look at compound sentence structures, and sentence combining activities. Mastering an understanding of how verbs work in simple sentences makes the transition to both reading and writing complex texts seamless and sets students up for success in later grades, especially as the reading focus becomes one to 'reading to learn' with more fact-based and informal texts.

Verb Unit Learning Objectives

By the end of this unit students will be able to

- Define a verb as an action OR state of being
- Differentiate between intransitive active verbs from transitive active verbs
- Identify direct and indirect objects
- Define a transitive passive verb as one showing the subject receiving action
- Differentiate between transitive passive verbs from past tense verbs
- Identify common irregular past tense verbs
- Define a verb phrase as having two or more verbs working together
- Define a linking verb as a verb showing a state of being
- Identify predicate adjectives as describing the subject
- Identify predicate nouns as renaming the subject.
- Create sentences using past, present, and future tenses
- Create sentences demonstrating understanding of each verb type and sentence pattern
- Combine two simple sentences to make compound sentences.

Length of Unit: 23-45 days

Average Lesson Length: 30-40 minutes

Verbs: Lesson Plans (14 scripted lessons, 32 additional activities, 1 kinesthetic activity)

Verbs: [Resource List](#) ***** (55 resources for lesson plans, including assessments)

Adjectives Unit Overview

An adjective is a word that modifies or describes a noun or pronoun. It gives more information about a noun's size, shape, color, purpose, etc. An adjective often comes before the noun in a sentence and gives details to our writing. Adjectives typically answer the following four questions: Which one? What kind? How many? Whose?

Mastering understanding of the four questions that adjectives answer at this level allows students to more readily identify phrases and clauses that act as adjectives. Adjectival phrases are the Prepositions Unit and serve as a bridge to helping students understand adjective clauses and complex sentences. Understanding how adjectives work allows students to not only be descriptive and creative developing their writing skills, but it also helps students feel more confident and comfortable reading longer and more complicated information text.

Adjective Unit Learning Objectives

By the end of this unit students will be able to

- Define an adjective as a word that describes a noun or pronoun
- Demonstrate knowledge of the four adjective questions
- Correctly use articles as identifiers
- Effectively use adjectives to describe nouns
- Effectively identify possessive nouns
- Correctly use possessive nouns to modify nouns in sentences
- Correctly use possessive pronouns in sentences

Length of Unit: about 4-6 days

Length of Lesson: 30-40 minutes

Adjectives: Lesson Plans (4 scripted lessons, 15 additional activities, 1 kinesthetic activity)

Adjectives: [Resource List](#) ***** (23 resources, including assessments)

Adverbs Unit Overview

Adverbs modify or describe verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs. Most commonly, they modify verbs. Say adverb out loud. What do you hear? Add + verb. Adverbs add more detail to a verb. Example: slowly. The turtle moved slowly. How did the turtle move? Slowly. Many adverbs end in “ly”, like slowly. Adverbs answer the questions: How? When? Where? Why? and To what extent?

As with adjectives, adverbs allow students to be more descriptive when they are expressing themselves. At this level will be looking at adverbs that modify verbs, as well adjectives. When students master the role of individual adverbs, then making the leap to adverbial phrases and clauses presents little trouble.

Adverb Unit Learning Objectives

By the end of this unit, students will be able to

- Define an adverb as a word that modifies (describes) verbs, adjectives, and adverbs
- Demonstrate an understanding of the five adverb questions
- Create sentences using adverbs correctly modifying verbs
- Recognize the difference between adjectives and adverbs
- Create sentences using adverbs to modify other adverbs
- Effectively combine sentences with adjectives and adverbs

Length of Unit: 4-8 days

Average Length of Lesson: 30-40 minutes

Adverbs: Lesson Plans (4 scripted lessons, 5 additional activities, 1 kinesthetic activity)

Adverbs: [Resource List](#) ***** (23 resources, including assessments)

Prepositions Unit Overview

Prepositions are words that show a relationship between an object and another word in a sentence. They are often referred to as position words. Prepositions show direction, time, place, location, etc. They work like a bridge. They are placed before a noun or pronoun and connect the noun or pronoun to the rest of the sentence.

Prepositional phrases are everywhere! When students come to understand that prepositional phrases can act as adjectives or adverbs, there is usually an epiphany. A firm understanding of prepositional phrases allows students to later understand noun phrases, and at that point only do they have foundation to differentiate between phrases and clauses, an essential skill for both reading comprehension and effective writing.

Preposition Unit Learning Objectives

By the end of this unit, students will be able to

- Associate Patty the Preposition and the color purple with prepositions
- Define a preposition as a word that shows a relationship
- Identify and use prepositions of location
- Identify and use prepositions of time

Length of Unit: 4-7 days

Average Lesson Length: 30-40 minutes

Prepositions: Lesson Plans (4 scripted lessons, 8 additional activities)

Prepositions: [Resource List](#) ***** (20 resources, including assessment)

Pronouns Unit Overview

A pronoun takes the place of a noun or a group of nouns. We use them to replace nouns when a reader or listener already knows which noun we are talking about. For example, "Mrs. Harris teaches our class music. She is a fun teacher." By using the pronoun, she, you avoid repeating Mrs. Harris over and over again. Pronouns are an important tool for students to understand as they develop their reading and writing skills. At this level, we will be focusing on the most common pronouns acting as subjects and objects in sentences. Students will also be introduced to possessive pronouns and how they act like adjectives.

Pronoun Unit Learning Objectives

By the end of this unit, students will be able to

- Define a pronoun as a word that replaces a noun
- Understand that pronouns must match the words they replace (antecedent).
- Define and use subject pronouns
- Define and use object pronouns

Length of Unit: about 8–13 days

Average Length of Lessons: 15–20 minutes

Pronouns: Lesson Plans (4 scripted lesson, 10 additional activities)

Pronouns: [Resource List](#) ***** (26 resources, including assessments)

Conjunction Unit Overview

A conjunction is a vital part of speech that connects words, phrases, or clauses in a sentence. It functions as a bridge, linking related elements and creating a cohesive flow of ideas. Common conjunctions include “and”, “but”, “or”, among others. At this level, we will focus on simple sentences where conjunctions play the limited role of connecting words and phrases. Conjunctions in compound and complex sentences can be difficult for students to wrap their heads around, so we continue to focus on simple sentences and the role that conjunctions play within those sentences, and introduce compound sentences. Conjunctions offer a perfect opportunity to review everything students have learned about sentences up to this point. We suggest spending a day or two, before starting conjunctions, to refocus on subjects (nouns), verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and prepositional phrases using optional activities in those units.

Conjunction Unit Learning Objectives

By the end of this unit, students will be able to

- Associate the Coco the Conjunction and the color pink with conjunctions
- Define a conjunction as a word that connects two other words
- Use conjunctions to connect nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs

Length of Unit: 3-4 days

Average Length of Lesson: 15-20 minutes

Conjunctions: Lesson Plans (2 scripted lesson, 4 additional activities)

Conjunctions: [Resource List](#) ***** (15 Resources)

Interjection Unit Overview

Interjections are expressive and short exclamations that convey emotions, feelings, or reactions in a sentence. They are stand-alone words or phrases that are often punctuated with an exclamation mark but can also be followed by a comma. They add emphasis and impact to the overall expression. Common examples of interjections include: "Wow!", "Oh no!", "Yay!", and "Ouch!" which contribute to the emotional tone and color of communication. While interjections are much more common in verbal communications, they play an important role when developing reading and writing skills. Students love using interjections in their own creative writing.

Interjection Unit Learning Objectives

By the end of this unit, students will be able to

- Associate the Ishmael and the color grey with interjections
- Define an interjection as a word expressing emotion
- Recognize interjections as independent from sentence patterns
- Choose appropriate interjections based on context

Length of Unit: about 5 days

Average Length of Lesson: 30-40

Interjections: Lesson Plans (2 scripted lesson, 4 additional activities)

Interjections: [Resource List](#) ***** (10 resources, including assessment)

