

Teacher notes

Grammar Burst: Powerful Verbs

The resources in this Grammar Burst Pack provide all you need to teach five 15-minute lessons on powerful verbs.

The lessons are designed to be taught across a week.

Alternatively, you may wish to teach the sessions in larger chunks, spread over a longer period of time, or intersperse them with different Grammar Burst lessons.

The resources included in this pack are:

- ▶ PowerPoint
- ▶ Powerful verbs challenge sheet
- ▶ Powerful verb cards set 1
- ▶ Powerful verb cards set 2
- ▶ Five story images
- ▶ Writing plan
- ▶ Ulevelling writing worksheet

The 5 lessons are:

Understand

Display **PowerPoint slide 2**. An image is displayed accompanied by 6 sentences. **Question:** *Are some of these sentences more interesting than others?* Display **PowerPoint slide 3**. **Question:** *What makes them more interesting?* Display **PowerPoint slide 4** and establish that the more interesting sentences use powerful verbs. Establish that the focus for these sessions will be powerful verbs.

Display **PowerPoint 5 Question:** *How did the different verbs affect the sentences?* Display **PowerPoint slides 6** and **7**. Establish that more powerful verbs paint a more specific picture of what action is happening in the reader's mind.

Display **PowerPoint 8**. Challenge the children to place those words in sentences. Feedback and share answers.

Display **PowerPoint slide 9. Question:** *How many synonyms for these words can you think of?* Provide the children with the opportunity to think of answers. Feedback and discuss. Display **PowerPoint slide 10. Question:** *How many of these did you think of? Are there any words you thought of which aren't on the lists?*

Display **PowerPoint 11. Question:** *Why do we need so many different words for 'said'?* Display **PowerPoint slide 12**. Ask the children to write a sentence about each image, using a different synonym for 'said' in each sentence. Feedback and share answers.

Display **PowerPoint slide 13**. Provide the children with copies of the **powerful verbs challenge sheet**.

Activity 1 - Children should circle any powerful verbs they see in the sentences.

Activity 2 - Children should change the verb in each sentence for a more powerful one.

Activity 3 - Children are provided with seven powerful verbs and asked to use each one in a sentence.

Activity 4 - Children are provided with an image. They are challenged to write a 5-sentence story about that image, using at least three powerful verbs in their writing.

Display **PowerPoint slide 14**. Explain to children that by the end of the week they will have created a story using one or more of the images for inspiration. They will be asked to make their story as exciting as possible, using powerful verbs and other techniques.

Use

Display **PowerPoint slide 16**.

Ask the children to create a sentence about each of the three images on the board. Each sentence should include a powerful verb. Feedback and discuss.

Display **PowerPoint slide 17**. **Question:** *Why do we need more than one verb for walk?* Ask for a volunteer, or choose a child, and let them choose a **powerful verb card** from **set 1**, all of which are synonyms for 'walk'. Challenge the child to act out their verb in front of the class. The other children should attempt to guess which version of 'walk' they are acting out. Repeat with different children and the other cards.

Display **PowerPoint slide 18**. Split the classroom into groups. Provide each group with the **powerful verb cards set 2**. After the group has had a chance to read the verb cards, they should be shuffled and shared out amongst each member of the group. The children will then be able to play verb charades. One member of a group should act out their verb. Once it has been correctly guessed, the card is put in the centre of the table and the next player takes a turn. The group which has gone through each of the verbs in the shortest possible time is the winning group.

Display **PowerPoint slide 19** and challenge children to create a piece of writing that includes at least three powerful verbs from the set of cards on their table.

Display **PowerPoint slide 20**. Remind children that they will be creating a piece of writing inspired by one or more of these images. Ask the children to discuss with a partner what they think is happening in each picture.

Plan

Display **PowerPoint slide 22**. Challenge the children to improve these sentences by using more powerful verbs. Feedback and discuss.

Display **PowerPoint slide 23**. Provide each table group with copies of the **five story images**. Challenge the children to add as many powerful verbs as possible to the outside of the images. Remind them to use as many senses as possible. Encourage the children to think of powerful verbs which nobody else in the room might have come up with. Feedback and discuss. Collect ideas.

Display **PowerPoint slide 24**. Provide children with copies of the **Grammar Burst writing plan**. Give them time to complete their writing plan, with the help of their annotated **story images**.

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Write

Display **PowerPoint slide 26**. Challenge the children to write three sentences which include powerful verbs, based on the image.

Display **PowerPoint slide 27**. Challenge the children to create a sentence for each of the words on the board.

Provide children with copies of the **Grammar Burst writing plan** they completed in the last session.

Display **PowerPoint slide 28**. Ask the children to use their plans to write a story about one or more of the images.

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Edit

Display **PowerPoint slide 30**. challenge the children to write three sentences which include powerful verbs, based on the image.

Provide children with copies of the **uplevelling sheet**. Display **PowerPoint slide 31**. Establish that the sentences are boring. Ask the children to improve them. They should change some of the verbs for more powerful ones – but encourage them to consider other methods, too.

Ask the children to use these methods to make corrections to their own work.