Same meanings and opposite meanings

Parent Corner

Today in Active learning@Home we are focusing on synonyms (words with the same meanings) and antonyms (words with opposite meanings) and how this can make our use of language better. In maths, your child will learn about multiplying fractions. Make time during the day to play the ‘treasure hunt’ game.

Book of the day


It explains complicated issues in an easy way and also provides important information to children on how to protect themselves.


Online Resources

FREE online applications (Apps) recognised by the Department of Basic Education (linked to the curriculum) are available.

2Enable register here: https://www.2enable.org/
Also visit the DBE’s Cloud at: https://dbecloud.org.za

Learning together is FUN

Do the following activities with your child. They are linked to the work that he or she is already doing in class. In this way you help him or her to stay up to date with his or her learning.

Synonyms and antonyms

As your child learns how to read and write, it will find that words become very important. Without words we cannot make up a sentence and without a sentence we cannot make up a paragraph.

Explain to your child the following: Synonyms are words that have the same meaning. For example, the word happy has the same meaning as words such as cheerful, glad and joyful.

Antonyms are words that have the opposite meaning. For example the opposite of happy is sad.

Writers use synonyms to make their stories more interesting and fun, as it becomes boring to use the same word many times in a sentence or paragraph.

Make this a bit more fun by asking your child to create a poem using synonyms like cool, hip, stylish, trendy and antonyms like boring or unfashionable. He or she can also add music and different beats to make the poem trendy.

Multiplying fractions

Understanding fractions is an important skill for your children as it will help them when they get older. Explain to your child that we are exposed to fractions every day. For example, a standard pizza is cut into 8 pieces, when he or she eats one slice, he or she is eating \( \frac{1}{8} \) of a pizza.

Multiplying fractions is the easiest section to explain to your child. If we look at the example, \( \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{2}{3} \), we multiply \( \times \) the top numbers by each other \( (3 \times 1) \), and we multiply \( \div \) the bottom numbers by each other \( (3 \times 8) \), making the answer \( \frac{2}{12} \).

When doing this activity with your children use small numbers to make it easy for them to understand.
Encourage them to keep trying and they will master this section.

Play today

TREASURE HUNT. It is important to keep your children’s minds active in order to develop their thinking skills.

First, plan where you will hide the treasures (in the house or outside). You will need to write a clue that will give your child just enough information to search for the treasure. For example, if you hide a treasure under the bed, the clue may be ‘something you sleep on’. Hide about 5 treasures, each with its own clue. Write the clues on a piece of paper and give to your child. The treasures can be anything from a special note, to a healthy snack like an apple.

If they have found all the treasures, their reward is that they can choose who will wash the dishes that evening.

Remember to keep it PLAYFUL and FUN. That is how children learn.

Healthy Habits

Cough and sneeze into your elbow please

The LEGO Foundation