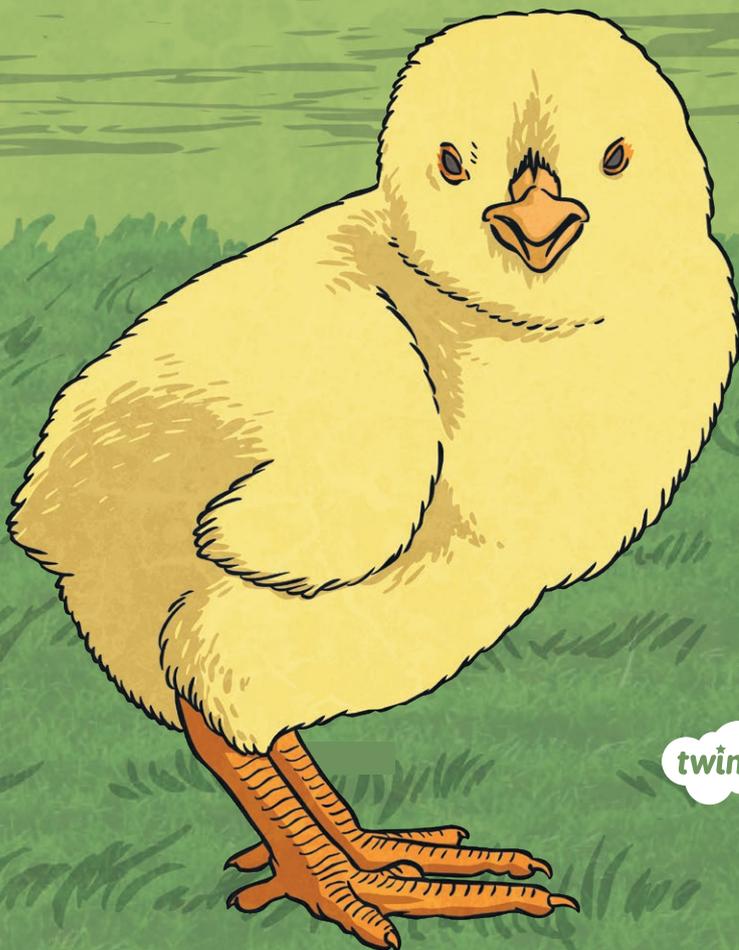


Spring

English Activity Booklet



Unlucky Synonyms and Antonyms!

The chicks have got mixed up and can't find their mothers! Can you identify the synonyms and antonyms to match each mother hen to her chicks? Colour the word box in the matching colour. Two have been done for you.

Choose two of the following and write your own list of synonyms and antonyms for each one.

small | happy | wonderful | nice | sharp | unusual

Word	Synonyms	Antonyms

The Secret Garden

Frances Hodgson Burnett

In the course of her digging with her pointed stick Mistress Mary had found herself digging up a sort of white root rather like an onion. She had put it back in its place and patted the earth carefully down on it and just now wondered if Martha could tell her what it was.

“Martha,” she said, “what are those white roots that look like onions?”

“They’re bulbs,” answered Martha. “Lots o’ spring flowers grow from ‘em. Th’ very little ones are snowdrops and crocuses an’ th’ big ones are narcissus an’ jonquils an’ daffydowndillys. Th’ biggest of all is lillies an’ purple flags. Eh! They are nice. Dickon’s got a whole lot of ‘em planted in our bit o’ garden.”

“Does Dickon know all about them?” asked Mary, a new idea taking possession of her.

“Our Dickon can make a flower grow out of a brick wall. Mother says he just whispers things out o’ th’ ground.”

“Do bulbs live a long time? Would they live years and years if no one helped them?” inquired Mary anxiously.

“They’re things as helps themselves,” said Martha. That’s why poor folk can afford to have ‘em. If you don’t trouble ‘em, most of ‘em’ll work away underground for a lifetime an’ spread out an’ have little ‘uns. There’s a place in th’ park woods here where there’s snowdrops by the thousands. They’re the prettiest sight in Yorkshire when th’ spring comes. No one knows when they was first planted.”



The Secret Garden Questions

1. What onion-like thing did Mary dig up?

2. Name two of the spring flowers mentioned in the text.

1. _____

2. _____

3. What does the author mean by 'a new idea taking possession of her'?

4. Tick the words closest in meaning to 'em'll'.

- Emma all
- them all
- them will
- Emma will

5. What do you think the relationship between Martha and Mary is? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

6. Martha is a great gardener.

Do you agree with this statement? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Super Sentences

Use your super sentence writing skills to create **passive sentences**. Look at the image, then create a **passive sentence** that makes sense.





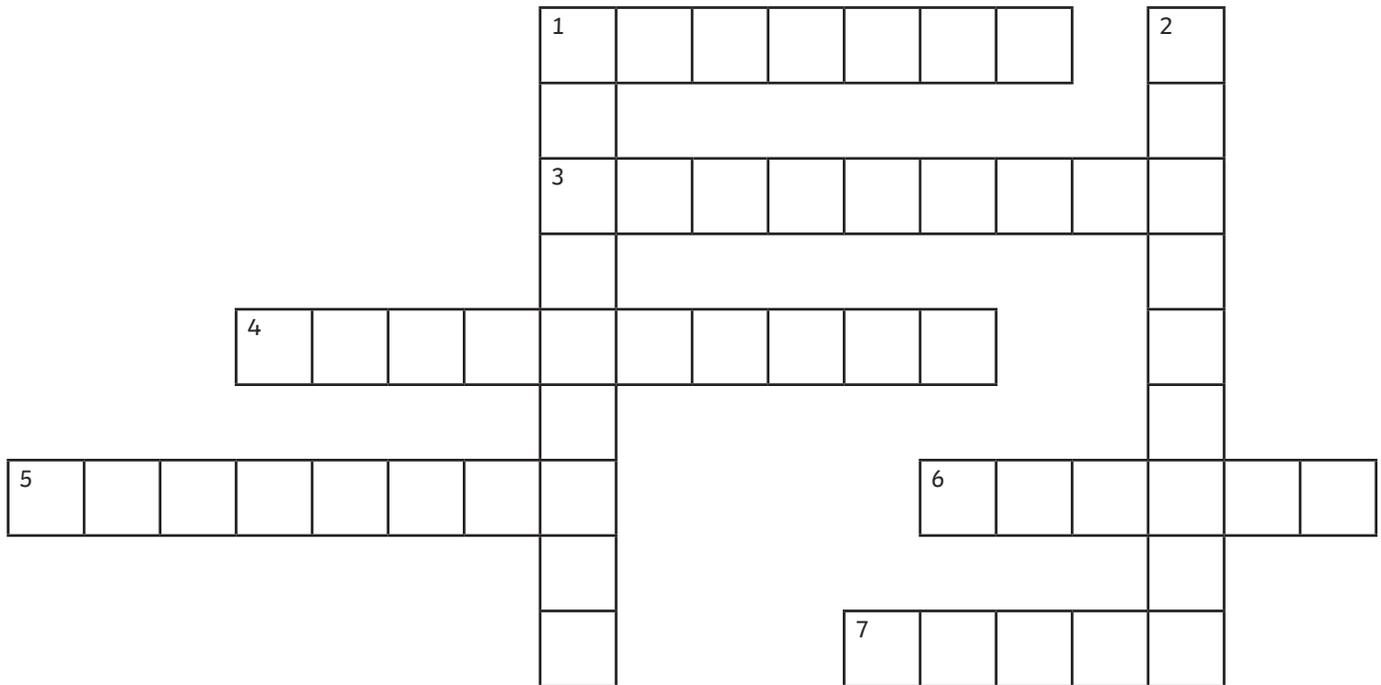
Now, use your super sentence writing skills to create **active sentences**. Look at the image, then create an **active sentence** that makes sense.





Criss-Cross Conundrum

Can you solve the clues below to figure out the words in this crossword? Make sure that you spell your answers correctly.



Across

1. A person who serves in the army.
3. A person living next door.
4. To value something or recognise its worth.
5. Convince someone to do something.
6. A bump or mark that appears on the body when hurt.
7. The number after 39.

Down

1. A sign off to be used in a letter.
2. An eager wish to learn or know something, it killed the cat.

Use some of your words in a spring-themed sentence including relative clauses.

Think and Write: A Spring to Remember

Use this picture as inspiration to carefully think about and write a short paragraph.



Sentence 1: Start with a fronted adverbial.

Sentence 2: Include a relative clause.

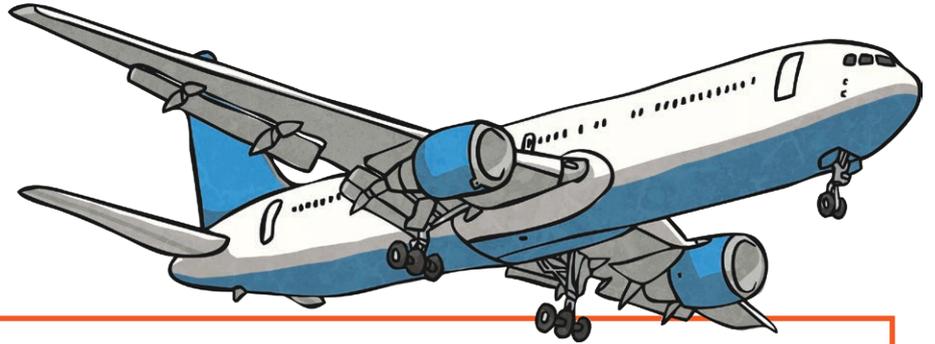
Sentence 3: Use a passive sentence.

Sentence 4: Use a semi-colon to mark the boundary between related independent clauses.

Sentence 5: Use a dash/dashes to indicate parenthesis.

Hapless Hyphens!

The text below is missing all the hyphens. Can you add hyphens in the correct place?



Today was so much fun. We went on an airplane. First of all, we had to go to the check in desk to have our tickets checked. It was really hot in the airport and I was glad I decided to wear a short sleeved top. My three year old brother was playing with his six piece puzzle and giggling happily to himself. A tired looking passer by grunted as they looked at him, they we're obviously quite bad tempered. Finally, the man behind the desk called us forward in a sing song voice. Dad put the suitcases on the conveyor belt and we watched them go through. I couldn't wait for take off. I had never been on a plane before and was puppy like with excitement. The man at the x ray machine smiled at me and said how well behaved I was. Our plane was at gate thirty two, so we made our way there.

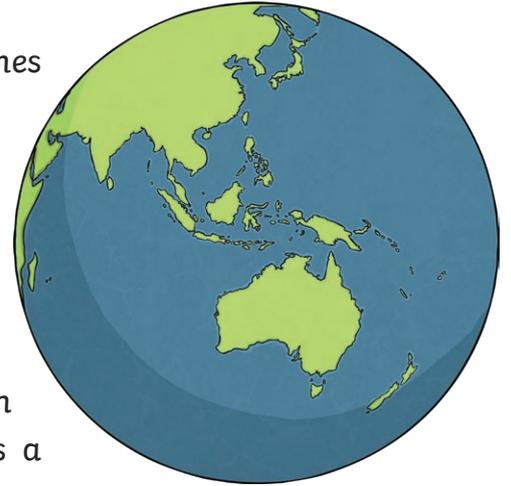
Can you use hyphens in some sentences below about spring?

Spring in Australia

The Weather

During spring, there is more daylight and each day becomes slightly longer. This is because of the tilt of the Earth's axis.

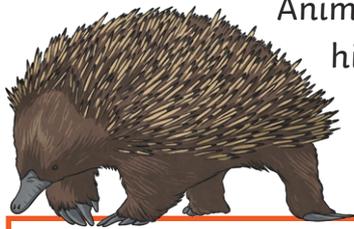
In spring, the weather is varied. Although there may be some warmer weather, it can also be a wet season. Frost, wind, rain, sun and even snow can occur in spring.



Animals

In spring, many animals and birds reproduce. There is an abundance of food and the days are longer, giving animals a longer time to gather food.

Animals may start to shed their winter coat in preparation for the warmer weather.



Animals that hibernate will start to wake up and become active. During hibernation, an animal's temperature drops, its breathing slows down and its heart rate decreases. Native Australian animals that hibernate include possums, bats and echidnas.

The seasons in Australia happen at different times of the year than in the United Kingdom.

Summer: December, January and February.

Autumn: March, April and May.

Winter: June, July and August.

Spring: September, October and November.

Plants

Plants need water and sunlight to grow. Spring provides the perfect environment for new growth.

Deciduous trees (trees that lose their leaves during autumn and throughout winter) will grow their leaves back, however, almost all native trees in Australia are evergreens.

Flowers may also start to bloom with the warmer weather. Fruits, such as apples, pears, avocados, lemons, mandarins and strawberries, begin to grow.



Spring in Australia Questions

1. Why is spring an important season for animals?

2. Why does spring provide a perfect environment for new growth?

3. What is the difference between a deciduous and an evergreen tree?

4. Which is closest in meaning to the word 'abundance'? Tick **one**.

- plenty
- not a lot of
- greedy
- ripe

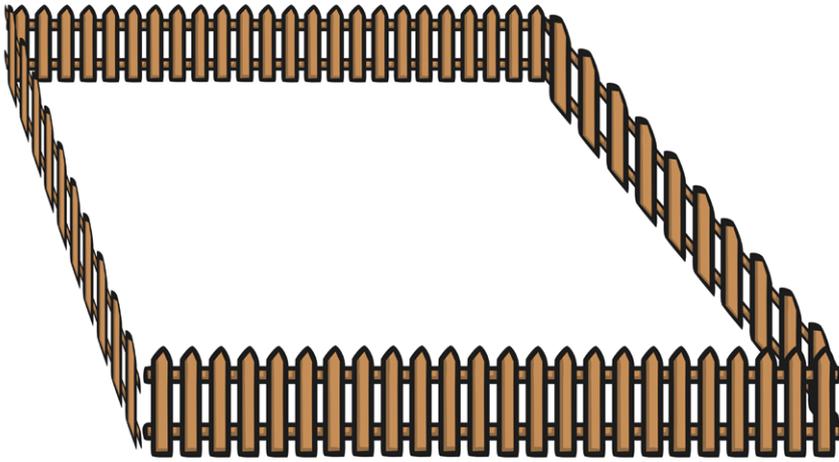
5. Can you rewrite the information in a fact sheet including:

- headings;
- sub-headings;
- bullet points;

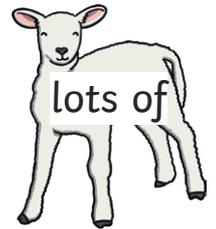
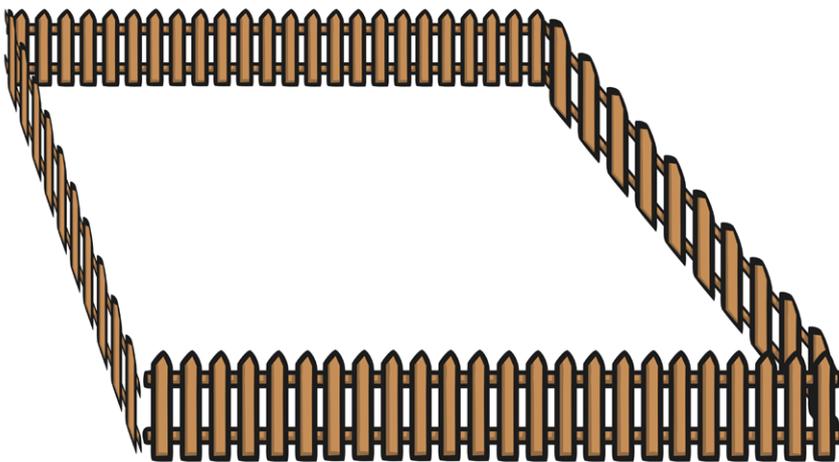
Lost Lambs!

The lambs have escaped their pens and are all mixed up. Can you return them to the pen they came from by matching the formal and informal language?

Formal



Informal



Could you use some of the words in spring-themed sentences with two independent clauses (separated with a colon, semi-colon or dash)?
