

Word Detective

Students use sentence clues to answer questions about new words.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.K.4 "With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about unknown words in a text."

NAME _____

DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 FIND MEANING

a	slow	fast	sleepy
b	tired	happy	angry
c	small	huge	empty

2 MATCH CLUES

silent	•	•	morning
soar	•	•	quiet
dawn	•	•	fly

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Before each part, invite children to ask, “What does that word mean?” Read each sentence slowly, then reread the clue words around the new word. The skill is shown when children ask about a new word and use the sentence to choose a meaning.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 • FIND MEANING

SAY “Listen to each short sentence. If you hear a word you do not know, you can ask, “What does that word mean?” I will read the choices too. Listen for clues, then answer each question by circling a word.”

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Listen: “The fox is swift. It runs fast.” What does swift mean? The choices are slow, fast, and sleepy. Circle the word that answers our question.	fast
b	Listen: “Sam is weary. He needs to rest.” What does weary mean? The choices are tired, happy, and angry. Circle the word that answers our question.	tired
c	Listen: “The enormous bus filled the road.” What does enormous mean? The choices are small, huge, and empty. Circle the word that answers our question.	huge

PART 2 • MATCH CLUES

SAY “Listen: “A silent owl sat on a branch. It did not make a sound. At dawn, it began to soar. It flew high.” What does each new word mean? Draw a line from each word on the left to the word that answers the question on the right.”

- **silent** matches **quiet**
- **soar** matches **fly**
- **dawn** matches **morning**

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Part 1 answers are fast, tired, and huge. In Part 2, accept silent to quiet, soar to fly, and dawn to morning, and accept oral questions or answers with teacher prompting.