

# Words That Soar

Use context to picture what similes and metaphors mean.

**5L5.a** "Interpret figurative language, including similes and metaphors, in context."

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1 READ AND MARK \_\_\_\_\_ Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline the four italicized comparisons. Write S beside each simile and M beside each metaphor, then circle words that help you picture each comparison's meaning.

### Kite Above the Park

- ① On Saturday morning, Talia carried her torn kite to the park with her uncle. The red paper lay flat on a picnic table. "It's *as wrinkled as an old map*," Talia said. She smoothed the paper carefully. Then she studied the thin wooden frame. "This kite is *a skeleton*," she told her uncle.
- ② At the park, Talia taped the paper to the frame and tied on new string. A light breeze moved across the grass. When she ran, the kite rose *like a bright fish swimming through blue water*, far above the park. Talia held the spool tightly. To her, the long string was *a road to the open sky*.
- ③ After several tries, the kite stayed above the field. Talia watched its red shape against the clouds. Her uncle asked why she had used comparisons instead of plain words. Talia looked at the kite and began to explain what each comparison helped her imagine. She spoke slowly and chose details from the morning. The other children listened.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What does the simile "as wrinkled as an old map" tell you about the kite paper?

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2 What does Talia mean when she calls the kite "a skeleton"?

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3 The narrator says the kite rose "like a bright fish swimming through blue water." What does this comparison suggest about the kite's movement?

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4 Why does Talia call the long string "a road to the open sky"?

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## 3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write two sentences about being outside on a rainy day. Use one simile and one metaphor. After each comparison, add parentheses that explain what it means.

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**PART 1 • READ AND MARK**

Underline the four italicized comparisons. Write S beside each simile and M beside each metaphor, then circle words that help you picture each comparison's meaning. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

**PART 2 • ANSWERS**

| # | QUESTION                                                                                                                                       | ANSWER                                                                                                  |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | What does the simile “as wrinkled as an old map” tell you about the kite paper?                                                                | <b>The kite paper had many wrinkles or folds.</b>                                                       |
| 2 | What does Talia mean when she calls the kite “a skeleton”?                                                                                     | <b>The thin wooden frame is the supporting structure that holds up the kite paper.</b>                  |
| 3 | The narrator says the kite rose “like a bright fish swimming through blue water.” What does this comparison suggest about the kite’s movement? | <b>It suggests that the kite moved smoothly through the blue sky, like a fish moving through water.</b> |
| 4 | Why does Talia call the long string “a road to the open sky”?                                                                                  | <b>The string seems like a path leading from Talia’s hand up to the kite in the sky.</b>                |

**PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)**

Rain tapped like tiny drums on my umbrella (it made a quick, steady sound). My umbrella was a roof over my head (it protected me from the rain).

Accept equivalent explanations that connect each comparison to details in the scene. For Part 1, students should mark only the four italicized comparisons, since these are the targeted examples.