

Word Meaning Hunt

Teacher-led listening and marking for figuring out new words from short texts.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.K.4 "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 CIRCLE IT _____

a	shy	brave	loud
b	tiny	huge	sleepy
c	jump	disappear	sing

2 MATCH WORDS _____

steamy	•	•	thin
curious	•	•	hot
narrow	•	•	interested

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Read each short text and each choice aloud. Students listen for the unfamiliar word, use the other words in the text for clues, and mark the meaning that makes sense. After the choices, invite each child to choose a word from a tiny story that is unfamiliar or that they want to understand better. Help the child ask, What does ___ mean in this story? Give a short context-based reply. Have the child tell its meaning in their own words or use it in a fitting new sentence; support and recheck.

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

PART 1 • CIRCLE IT

SAY "Listen to each tiny story and to the choices in its row. Which word in each row might mean the new word?"

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Listen: The pup was timid. He hid behind Dad and would not come near the new dog. The choices are shy, brave, and loud. Which word might mean timid?	shy
b	Listen: The tree was enormous. It was taller than all the other trees. The choices are tiny, huge, and sleepy. Which word might mean enormous?	huge
c	Listen: The rabbit will vanish into the tall grass. Soon, we will not see it. The choices are jump, disappear, and sing. Which word might mean vanish?	disappear

PART 2 • MATCH WORDS

SAY "Listen: The soup was steamy, so Mia waited before she tasted it. The kitten was curious and peeked inside the box. The trail was narrow, so only one person could walk on it. Draw a line from each word on the left to the word that means the same thing on the right. Now choose one story word you want to understand better and ask me what it means here. Listen to my reply, then tell me its meaning or use it in a sentence. I can help you ask and answer."

- **steamy** matches **hot**
- **curious** matches **interested**
- **narrow** matches **thin**

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Circle shy, huge, and disappear. Match steamy to hot, curious to interested, and narrow to thin. Also observe each child's actual word-meaning question, adult or partner answer, and meaningful restatement or use. Do not require pretending a known word is unknown: a question to learn more about a story word is valid. Context-based support and an accurate retry are appropriate.