



Activities based around the song *Nouns*

Types of nouns

This catchy song will help you to remember that a noun is a naming word. It's a person, a place or a thing. There are different types of nouns (the first three below are mentioned in the song).

1. Common nouns - general names like man, dog or clock.
2. Collective nouns - the name for groups of things, like pride, herd or flock.
3. Proper nouns - for people, places or things, like Bethany or Mister, London or Thames.

Did you know? There are other types too. Have you heard of these?

4. Concrete noun – people, places or objects that you can physically touch. They include proper and common nouns for example tree, mum, London.
5. Abstract nouns – things that can't be touched or seen e.g. danger, happiness.
6. Compound nouns - made up of two existing words e.g. playgroup or cat food

Maths data collection

The names of everyone in your class are proper nouns. You all have capital letters at the start of your names. Make a tally chart to record how many names start with each letter of the alphabet. Now create a bar graph with this information. You could also order the letters from most to least common.

Famous proper nouns

Proper nouns are the names of people, places and things. Thinking about your local area write a list of some famous people, famous places, famous things that are specific to where you come from. Next write a list of famous places you'd like to visit, famous people you'd like to meet and famous things you'd like to see. Choose one place and investigate it further. What things make it look like an exciting place to visit. Here's a clue: cities, stadiums, theme parks, palaces, castles, rivers, mountains, animals and seas/oceans for example. Create a one-page flyer about this place. Include at least one image and information for visitors, plus a top five things to do or see using the names (proper nouns) that visitors might want to see when they visit.

Or

Watch [this video](#) which outlines the 7 Wonders of the world. Are there any that you haven't heard of? Which one would you like to know more about? Do some research and create a fact file about one of these. Include pictures (you could draw them) and some facts.

Do you know your groups?

Collective nouns name groups of things. You probably already know some like, a flock of sheep or a pride of lions. They can be used for people and objects too, such as a crowd of people and a fleet of ships.

Watch [this video](#) and try and guess the 12 collective nouns. When you've finished, you'll find the answers at the end of the video. Now try and match the pairs below. Draw a line between the ones you think go together:

People

party	singers
choir	dancers
troupe	friends

Animals

pod	geese
colony	dolphins
flock	ants

Things

bouquet	grapes
bunch	flowers
range	mountains

Expanded noun phrases

An expanded noun phrase is made up of a noun and at least one adjective (a describing word) for example 'the jagged fence', 'the vast grey sky'. It gives the reader a much better description of the person, object, place or animal that is being written about. Watch [this video](#) which explains how to use expanded noun phrases and try writing your own. What adjectives could you add to the following nouns to make them more exciting: kitten, wizard and road?

The _____ kitten.

A wizard with _____.

The _____ road.

Invent a book 'blurb'

A blurb is a short piece of descriptive writing that promotes something, like a book or film for example. With books and films, it outlines the story in a way that makes it sound exciting, so you want to read the book, or watch the film.

Can you guess which films or books these blurbs describe?

1. *An astonishing technique for recovering and cloning dinosaur DNA has been discovered. Now humankind's most thrilling fantasies have come true. Creatures extinct for eons roam XX with their awesome presence and profound mystery, and all the world can visit them—for a price.*

Until something goes wrong. . . .

2. *This is where the adventure begins, as XX discovers that he is no ordinary boy but a wizard of great renown, and is expected at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Moreover, at Hogwarts, he encounters "He Who Must Not Be Named", a master of magic whose ambition is more dark and terrifying than.....*

Now write your own book blurb including a range of proper, common and collective nouns. You'll need to use some adjectives and verbs. Can you use an extended noun phrase too? To get started think of a simple storyline with at least a couple of characters, what will happen to them on their journey and who will they meet? Then write a list of nouns, adjectives and verbs you want to include in the story. Over to you now - write your own blurb.

Write your own rap

In the song the rap section includes some clues for proper, common and collective nouns.

- I'm the capital of England, the home of Big Ben
My Prime Minister lives at Number Ten.
What's my noun?
(Did you guess it? London)
- When all of my sheep friends group together
Bleating on the hillside, whatever the weather.
What's my noun?
(Did you guess it? A flock)

Invent your own rap which gives clues about which noun you are describing. Pick a proper, common or collective noun (person, place or object) and write new lyrics following the length and number of syllables of the phrases above. Then rap along to the backing track. Can your friends guess correctly?

Art and design

Make a 3D model of a noun. You can choose which type of noun and what to create. Use materials such as salt dough, plasticine, papier-mâché. Here are some ideas:

- Pick a person (proper noun). It could be someone famous or a member of your family.
- Choose a group of animals or a natural feature such as a mountain range (collective noun).
- Build a monument or statue (proper noun). What about a well-known building like the Eiffel Tower, Empire State Building or The Angel of the North?