

Grade 3 Playlist: Abstract Nouns

Aligns with *CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.1.C*:

- Use abstract nouns (e.g., *childhood*).

Welcome

Knowing about nouns is useful for both readers *and* writers. Nouns help readers understand what a writer is writing about. Nouns help writers explain what is happening in a story. Some nouns name things people can see. Other nouns name things people cannot see.

Objectives

In this playlist, students will learn how to:

- recognize the difference between concrete nouns and abstract nouns.
- use abstract nouns in conversation and in writing.

Review

Key Terms

- A **noun** is a person, place, thing, or idea.
- A **concrete noun** is a noun that can be seen, felt, or touched, such as *dog*, *house*, or *pencil*.
- An **abstract noun** is a noun that cannot be seen, felt, or touched. Abstract nouns name feelings or ideas, such as *childhood*, *friendship*, or *anger*.



Exploring the Standard

Abstract nouns name feelings or ideas. For example, *anger* and *joy* are abstract nouns that name feelings. People cannot see these feelings with their eyes. People can only see them in the way others act. *Friendship* is an abstract noun that names an idea. People can see friends, but not the idea of friendship. There is no one way that a friendship looks, such as the way a car or a ball looks. Here are some more examples of nouns that can and cannot be seen, touched, or felt.

| Concrete Nouns | Abstract Nouns |
|----------------|----------------|
| computer | fear |
| milk | difficulty |
| newspaper | pride |
| eyeglasses | bravery |
| parade | curiosity |
| princess | beauty |
| flower | loyalty |
| chair | humor |

Watch!

Watch this video to review two different types of nouns: concrete nouns and abstract nouns.

- <https://www.opened.com/video/concrete-and-abstract-nouns/407264>

Watch!

Watch this music video to learn about different types of nouns. The song covers concrete and abstract nouns from 1:07 to 1:58.

- <https://www.opened.com/video/noun-song-from-grammaropolis-noun-town-youtube/117248>



Teaching Notes: Abstract Nouns

The goals of L.3.1.C are for students to learn to use abstract nouns correctly and to distinguish between concrete nouns and abstract nouns. Students should recognize that abstract nouns name things that they cannot see, touch, taste, smell, or hear. The following information contains activities and resources that teachers can incorporate into their classroom instruction.

Example Answers

1. Answers to Example 1 are 1. concrete; 2. abstract; 3. abstract; 4. concrete; 5. concrete.
2. The abstract nouns that students should have underlined in Example 2 are *excitement*, *energy*, and *disappointment*.

Activity

Create a poster or word wall with two columns (one for abstract nouns and one for concrete nouns). As you read stories and articles as a class, have students identify examples of concrete and abstract nouns to add to the poster. Every so often, ask students to make a sentence using a noun from the poster. Have students share their examples with the class.

Differentiation Ideas

1. For students who need extra help identifying abstract nouns, provide them with a list of both concrete and abstract nouns. Go through the list with them one by one and ask: *Is this noun something that you can see, touch, hear, smell, or taste?* If the answer is “yes,” then tell them that it is a concrete noun. If the answer is “no,” then tell them that it is an abstract noun. Once they have mastered the concept, give them more examples but have them identify the abstract nouns independently.
2. For students who excel at identifying abstract nouns, explain that they can form abstract nouns from verbs and adjectives by adding suffixes such as *-ment*, *-ness*, *-tion*, and *-ity*. Give students the following list of words: *friend*, *honest*, *jealous*, *weak*, *astonish*, *disappoint*, *happy*, *relax*, *educate*, *communicate*. Ask them to add the correct ending to make the word into an abstract noun. (*friendship*, *honesty*, *jealousy*, *weakness*, *astonishment*, *disappointment*, *happiness*, *relaxation*, *education*, *communication*)

Additional Resources

Consider these additional resources when teaching L.3.1.C:

- This website describes a variety of activities teachers can use to practice abstract nouns in the classroom: <http://www.macomb.k12.mi.us/utica/grammar/1acnoun.html>
- This lesson plan incorporates songs and art projects to help students build skills with abstract nouns: <http://blog.flocabulary.com/what-is-an-abstract-noun/>

