



A SIMILE QUILT

What is a simile?

A simile is when we compare one thing to something else using the words 'as' or 'like', e.g.

- The mixture is as sticky as toffee. (The consistency of the mixture is being compared to that of toffee.)
- She moves like a dancer. (Her movements are being compared to those of a dancer.)

Why do we use similes?

- Similes help readers and listeners create pictures in their minds; therefore they make our speech and writing more interesting.
- Similes give our speech and writing energy.

Instructions:

Give each pupil in the class one of the similes from pages 2 and 3 to complete. Encourage pupils to think of their own comparisons. If they are experiencing difficulties, give them the HELP SHEET on page 4 and let them choose an appropriate comparison from there.

Then get them to write their similes in a decorative manner on an A4 sheet (they can do this either by hand or using a computer). Ask them to illustrate their similes to make the comparisons more vivid (again, this can be done either by hand or using a computer). The completed A-4 sheets can then be arranged on the wall to form a 'quilt'.

Examples:



SIMILES TO COMPLETE

The moon glowed like

Raindrops dripped down the window pane like

Smoke floated on the air like

The air smells as fresh as

The rose petals are as delicate as

The surface of the water is as smooth as

The icicles pointed downwards like

Dewdrops glistened on the flowers like

The fog covered the city like

The clouds are as fluffy as

The girl sings as sweetly as

The traffic moved as slowly as

The crows cackled like

The children scuttled across the beach like

The road wound its way up the mountain like

The sea sand lay across the path like

The water streamed down like

Snow drifted to the earth like

Clumps of snow stuck to the branches like

Her angry words spewed out like

The rain tapped on the roof as steadily as

The wind rushed through the house like

Wildflowers dotted the landscape like

The boy is as fit as

The child ate like

His stomach rumbled like

The soft breeze on her face was as gentle as

Her hair framed her face like

His fingers are as nimble (quick-moving) as

Snow topped the mountain like

HELP SHEET

spilled sugar	sharp needles
Christmas decorations	tiny crabs
a beating drum	a fairy's kisses
a pickpocket's	polished diamonds
whipped cream	giants' tears
a famished (starving) wolf	a mirror
wispy feathers	a grey blanket
wads of cottonwool	a giant serpent
an express train	a bridal veil
a lustrous (softly shining) pearl	distant thunder
water from a burst pipe	a lark
an Olympic athlete	a golden halo
demented (mad) witches	a troop of snails
ice-cream on a pudding	fine silk
scraps of coloured paper	newly washed linen



SIMILE QUILT

Instructions for teachers:

This differentiated resource uses more straightforward language than the main resource. The simile quilt can be made but will need to either have photographs of the pupils' chosen objects or the actual object attached. This is not that difficult to do with a digital camera, students could also find 'easy to stick' objects like leaves to attach to their quilt. Shells might prove more awkward!

Recap the basics:

What is a simile?

A simile is when we compare one thing to something else using the words 'as' or 'like', e.g.

- The leaf looks **like** paper.
- The Headteacher was **as** grumpy as a camel.

Why do we use similes?

- Similes make our talking and writing more interesting.

You will need sufficient resources for this, such as a bag of leaves (if you've done a spot of gardening), pebbles or shells.

To keep this exercise straightforward, the poems will be structured and have one line dedicated to each of the five senses.

First then, recap the five senses with the students: sight (seeing, looking), touch (feeling), hearing, smell, taste.

Pupils choose a leaf / stone / shell etc from the selection. Give them a few minutes to carefully examine their object - to feel it, smell it (probably not taste it), and to see whether it reminds them of anything.

Hold a discussion as a group. It is extraordinary what pupils may come up with because the object is tangible. The trickiest bit comes when you ask them to write what it reminds them of / makes them think of. Choose suitable senses to frame the poem around.

For example:

My leaf looks like ...

My leaf smells like ...

My leaf feels like...

My leaf reminds me of ...

Example of a poem:

My leaf looks like a hand
My leaf smells like tobacco
My leaf feels like tracing paper
My leaf reminds me of bonfire night

My shell looks like a bowl
My shell smells like tuna sandwiches
My shell feels like Granddad's ashtray
My shell reminds me of skimming stones on holiday

There are two worksheets with this resource as well as an additional version of the simile questions with answers to use in a group activity on an Interactive Whiteboard, or individually on computers. The children can move the answers to fit the question. One suggestion that would suitably match each question is in a text box below. The clichés may be helpful for a lot of pupils. If you can access the IT suite, pupils will love making their own answers in text boxes.

To further differentiate this task, try only having one question at a time to answer and put as many or as few suggestions as would be suitable for your children underneath.

Simile Poem

My leaf looks like

.....

My leaf smells like

.....

My leaf feels like.....

.....

My leaf reminds me of

.....

Similes to complete

The moon looks like . . .

Raindrops on the window look like . . .

The soap smelled like . . .

The flowers looked like . . .

The waves were as rough as . . .

The clouds are as fluffy as . . .

The boy walked as slowly as . . .

The snow fell down as quietly as . . .

The rain falling on the roof sounded like . . .

The snow on top of the mountain looked like . . .

Similes to complete

Drag the words in text boxes to complete the similes

The moon looks like . . .

Raindrops on the window look like . . .

The soap smelled like . . .

The flowers looked like . . .

The waves were as rough as . . .

The clouds are as fluffy as . . .

The boy walked as slowly as . . .

The snow fell down as quietly as . . .

The rain falling on the roof sounded like . . .

The snow on top of the mountain looked like . . .

icing on a cake.

a tortoise.

a mouse.

flowers.

cotton wool.

drumming.

splashes of paint.

a scribbly line.

tiny bubbles.

a torch beam.