

Language focus: Vocabulary - Opposites

Level: Elementary

Age: 4-6

Duration: 40 minutes

What's the aim of this lesson?

To enable students to correctly identify descriptive adjectives (plus one adverb) and their opposites.

What do I need?

You'll need:

- Opposites song video at <https://youtu.be/HKev6QbYTVM>
- Opposites matching worksheet, *included at the end of this plan*
- Opposites game at <https://opposites.app/>

What do I do?

- Lead in

Have all your students stand up, and then show them the Opposites song video. Act out the lyrics of the song and encourage the students to follow along.

- Vocabulary

Draw a chart with two columns on the board. On the left side write the following words: *big, fast, up, loud*.

Say these words and ask the students to repeat. Correct for pronunciation. Ask students what the opposite of “big” is (if they can't remember, help them by acting out the song with no words). Elicit all four opposites from the students, helping with

gestures as needed. Write the opposite words on the chart on the board. Say the opposite words and ask students to repeat. Correct for pronunciation.

- Presentation

Explain to students that these words are opposites. Demonstrate with mimes, hand gestures or objects (a football and a tennis ball for “big” and “small”) as you say the words and their opposites again. Concept check understanding of “opposite” by asking questions like:

- Are big and small opposites? (Yes!)
- Are little and small opposites? (No!)
- Are fast and big opposites? (No!)
- Are fast and slow opposites? (Yes!)

Add 4-5 more words to the chart on the board (e.g. “happy”, “hot”) and ask students for the opposite word. Act out the words if they need help.

- Restricted practice

Give each student a copy of the Opposites matching worksheet. Read the directions out loud and explain that they need to match the words by drawing a line. Write two opposite words on the board and draw a line between them as an example. Have all students complete the matching portion of the worksheet and correct as a class.

Next, have them complete the writing portion of the worksheet. Explain that they need to write the missing letter for each word. The students can colour the images if desired. Correct as a class once all students have completed the second part of the activity. Assist as needed.

- Less restricted practice

Divide the students into two teams. If you like, give the teams names and write them on the board.

Play the opposites game at <https://opposites.app/>. Explain that each team is going to take turns guessing the opposite word. Stress when it is each team's turn so they don't shout out answers. Each team gets one point for a correct answer. If a team gets the answer wrong, the other team has a chance to "steal" the question for extra points.

Optionally, divide the students into groups of 4 and have them write the answer on a piece of paper or small whiteboard – the first team with the correct answer gets 2 points and the second team gets 1 point (no points for a wrong answer).

Opposite words



Draw a line to match the word on the left to its opposite.

hot

slow

long

small

fast

quiet

loud

short

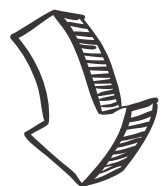
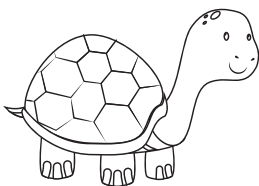
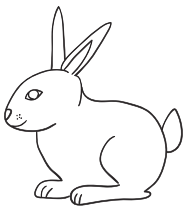
up

down

big

cold

Write the missing letters to make the opposite word.



f_st

sl_w

h_t

c_ld

_p

d_wn