



## Year 4 Writing

You are going to write a poem to describe an animal, which you could send to a friend to see if they can guess what it is!

Monday

SPAG - Similes and metaphors

Watch this clip to learn about similes and metaphors:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zk68wtv>

### Metaphors

A metaphor is a word or a phrase used to describe something **as if it were something else**.

For example: A wave of terror washed over him.

The terror isn't actually a wave, but a wave is a good way to describe the feeling.

Another example is: Jess is dynamite.

Jess isn't made of dynamite, but it's a good way to explain how exciting she is.

### Similes

A simile describes something by **comparing it to something else** using the words **like** or **as**.

For example:

- The snake moved like a ripple on a pond.
- It was as slippery as an eel.
- Jess is as graceful as a gazelle.

Writers use **similes** and **metaphors** to create a clear picture for their readers.

For example: 'The light was as bright as the sun' gives us more description than 'the light was bright'.

Task:

Complete this activity by changing all the boring descriptions into exciting **similes** and **metaphors**.

For example:

The shark had sharp teeth.

The shark had teeth as sharp as razors.

1. The cat was black.
2. The moon was shining.
3. The dog ran after the tennis ball.
4. Bobby was hungry.
5. The trees swayed in the breeze.
6. Sarah did well in her dance show.

**Remember:** similes use the words **like** and **as** whereas metaphors say something **is** something else.

### Top tip!

Your **similes** and **metaphors** still need to match what is being described. For example, 'as quiet as an elephant' doesn't make sense as elephants are big and loud, but 'as quiet as a mouse' does because mice are small and quiet.

Tuesday:

Today, you are going to select two animals to write poems about, you can either pick two of the pictures below or use your own animals.

Once you have picked them, I would like you to think of adjectives, similes and metaphors to describe the animal.

e.g



as big as a bus

tusks as sharp as knives

colossal

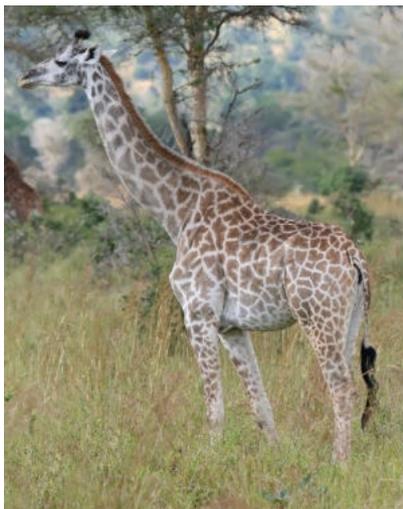
enormous

his body, a stone hard wall

the trunk, a long hosepipe

Tuesday - Animal pictures.

Remember pick to animals to describe or come up with your own!



Similes  
word mat

Metaphors mat

					
as boring as...	as hard as...	as nice as...	as fast as...	as sweet as...	as blue as...
					
				race like a...	sleep like a...

# Metaphors



It's raining cats and dogs.



I'm feeling blue.



A blanket of snow.



The stars are sky diamonds.



The house was a zoo.



My daddy is a teddy bear.



He is an angel.

as easy as...

is fresh as...

is hungry as...

is slow as...

is small as...

is black as...

eat like a...

have like a...

smell like a...



# Metaphors



Life is a rollercoaster.



Her hair is a golden river.



The world is a stage.



His eyes are shining stars.



You are my sunshine.



The wind was a howling wolf.



Thunder is a roaring lion.



[www.twinkl.com](https://www.twinkl.com)

Read through the following poems, can you highlight where the similes have been used?

Now, try highlighting where the metaphors have been used.

# Cat

He's a vicious tiger  
His claws are like knives

His eyes are like security cameras looking for trouble

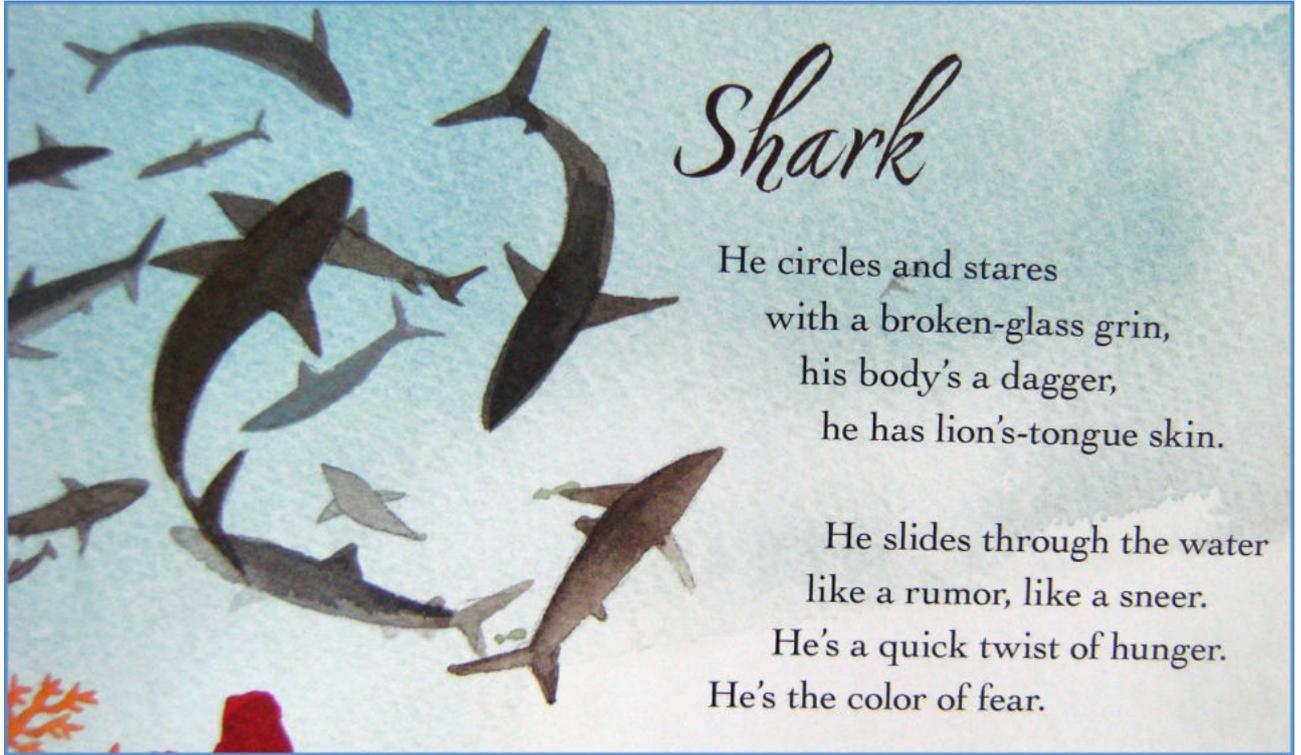
He's black trouble

He's a sports car zooming across the street

He's a dirty missile rocketing to his owner

He's a violin to my ears

He's my cat!



# Shark

He circles and stares  
with a broken-glass grin,  
his body's a dagger,  
he has lion's-tongue skin.

He slides through the water  
like a rumor, like a sneer.  
He's a quick twist of hunger.  
He's the color of fear.

Once you have done this, go back to your work from yesterday...Are there any ideas you could borrow for your own writing?

Thursday

Today you are going to try and write a poem about the animals you have chosen similes and metaphors for.

To start with, choose your first animal and have a go at writing out the similes, metaphors and adjectives onto small pieces of paper which you can move around. Place them in an order, and see if you think it sounds good, or whether they need to be put in another order.

Example

These are my words from my plan on Tuesday:

as big as a bus

tusks as sharp as knives

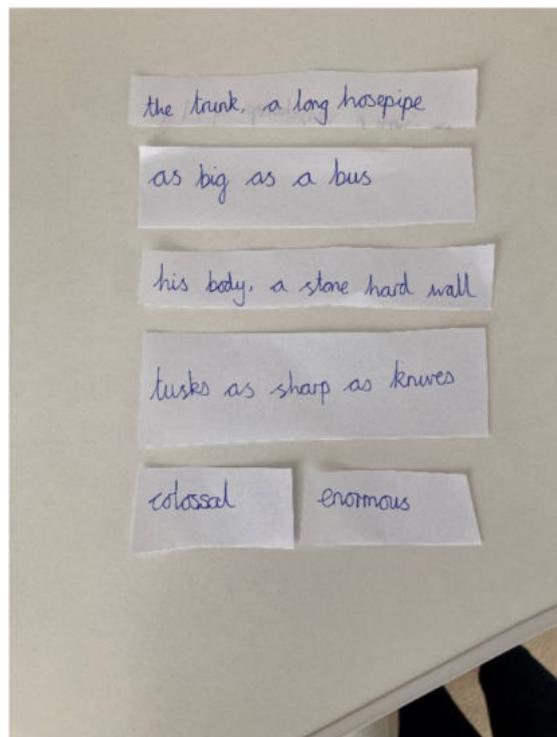
colossal

enormous

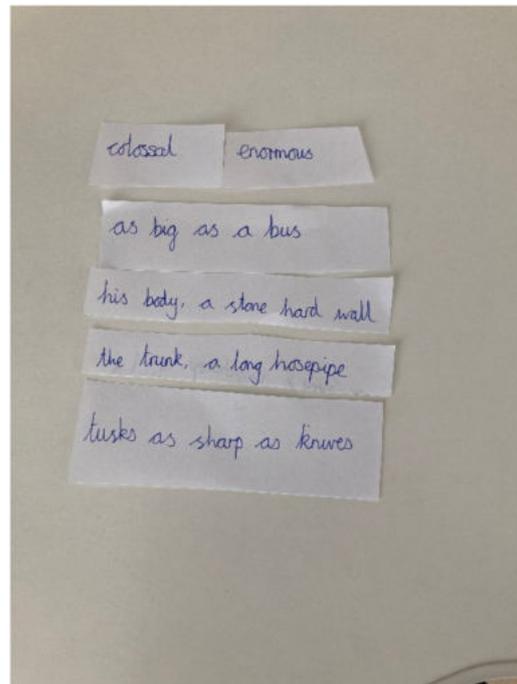
his body, a stone hard wall

the trunk, a long hosepipe

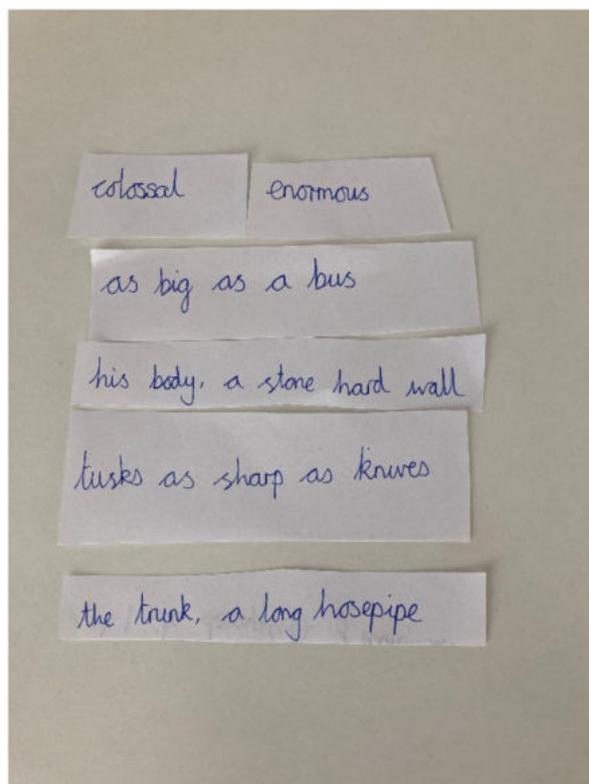
Version 1 -



Version 2 -



Version 3 -



My final poem:

This animal is,  
enormous, colossal,  
as big as a bus.  
His body is a stone hard wall,  
His tusks are as sharp as knives  
His trunk, is a long hosepipe,  
What animal is it?

Task: can you find the similes and metaphors in this poem?

Then repeat the process for your other animal!

Friday

Select your favourite poem you have written. Make sure you have spelt the words correctly and can easily spot the similes and metaphors.

Use the page border on the next page to write the final draft of your poem. Could you maybe send it to a friend for them to guess which animal you have been describing?!

Have fun year 4!

Mrs Taylor

