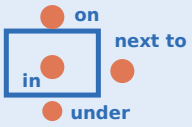
Word Class Detectives

Four word classes that help you write more interesting sentences in Year 3. Each one has a colour!

Preposition



My job: I tell you where or when something is.

🔍 **Ask:** Where is it? When did it happen?

in · on · under · behind · before · after · during

The ball rolled **under** the car.

Conjunction



My job: I join ideas together and tell you when, why or if.

🔍 **Ask:** Is it joining two ideas?

and · but · when · because · if · so · although

I wore a coat **because** it was cold.

Adverb



My job: I tell you how, when, where or how often - and help a story move on.

🔍 **Ask:** How? When? Then what?

then · next · soon · suddenly · therefore · often

Suddenly, the lights went out.

Adjective



My job: I describe a noun so the reader can picture it.

🔍 **Ask:** What is the noun like?

ancient · enormous · crumbly · freezing · silver

an **ancient** map

Top tip: a word's class depends on its **job in the sentence**. Turn over to see them all at work - and the tricky words that do two jobs.

Word Class Detectives

All of them in one sentence

After (PREPOSITION) lunch, we **quickly** (ADVERB) ran **outside** (ADVERB) **because** (CONJUNCTION) the **sunny** (ADJECTIVE) weather was **perfect.** (ADJECTIVE)

Don't get tricked! Same word, different job

Word	Preposition	Conjunction
before	I washed my hands **before** tea. just a noun after it	I washed my hands **before** I ate. a whole idea after it
after	We played **after** school.	We played **after** we finished.

a or an?

Next word starts with...	Use	Examples
a **consonant** sound (b, c, d, f...)	**a**	a dog, a cake, a unicorn
a **vowel** sound (a, e, i, o, u)	**an**	an apple, an elephant, an hour

Quick sort: which one is it?

under · because · soon · glittering · during · although · next · tiny

Preposition	Conjunction	Adverb	Adjective

Answers: preposition - under, during conjunction - because, although adverb - soon, next adjective - glittering, tiny