Word Class Detectives

Four grammar terms Year 4 adds to the toolkit. Each one has a colour - look out for it!

Determiner

the → dog

My job: I come before a noun and tell you which one, how many or whose.

🔍 **Ask:** Is there a noun straight after me?

a · an · the · this · those · my · their · some · every

Those three kittens are ours.

Pronoun

~~Mia~~ → she

My job: I take the place of a noun, so you don't keep repeating it.

🔍 **Ask:** Can I swap it for a name?

I · you · he · she · it · we · they · him · her · them

Mia found a shell. **She** kept **it.**

Possessive pronoun



My job: I show who something belongs to - and I stand on my own.

🔍 **Ask:** Whose is it? No noun after me.

mine · yours · his · hers · ours · theirs

That bike is **mine.**

Fronted adverbial



My job: I tell you when, where or how - and I go at the front, followed by a comma.

🔍 **Ask:** Did it start the sentence? Is there a comma?

Later that day, · Without a sound, · In the forest, · Next,

Without a sound, the cat crept away.

Top tip: my needs a noun after it (my bag). **Mine** stands alone (it's mine). Turn over for more words that try to trick you.

Word Class Detectives

All of them in one sentence

Later, (FRONTED ADVERBIAL) my (DETERMINER) friend lent me (PRONOUN) her (DETERMINER) pen because I (PRONOUN) had lost mine. (POSSESSIVE PRONOUN)

Don't get tricked! Determiner or pronoun?

Word	Before a noun = determiner	On its own = pronoun
my / mine	This is **my** bag.	This bag is **mine**.
his	**His** coat is red.	The red coat is **his**.
this	**This** book is great.	**This** is great.

Apostrophes for belonging

One owner	More than one owner	Rule
the girl**'s** bag	the girls' bags	plural ending in s: just add '
the child**'s** toy	the children**'s** toys	plural not ending in s: add **'s**

Quick sort: which one is it?

those · they · theirs · Suddenly, · every · him · yours · In the morning,

Determiner	Pronoun	Possessive pronoun	Fronted adverbial

Answers: determiner - those, every pronoun - they, him possessive pronoun - theirs, yours fronted adverbial - Suddenly, In the morning,