



## Sensational Similes

(Sensational: Exceedingly Great)

3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grades

- **What is a Simile:** A simile is the comparison of two unlike things using the word LIKE and the word AS. For example: *He is as busy as a beaver.* We are not saying he *is* a beaver. We are saying her is working like a beaver.
- **Describe Objects in the Room:** Ask students to find several objects in the room they can describe: *chair, table, something shiny, something heavy, something light, something narrow, something wide, something strong, something weak, etc.* Students work in partner-pairs. Choose one or two of the objects. Students write at least three similes about each object: *This chair is as strong as Superman. This chair is as strong as a buffalo. This chair is as strong as a sumo wrestler.* Encourage them to describe the other object using the word LIKE. For example: *This table is like a rock. This table is like doll house furniture. This table is like wobbly plastic*

- **Listen for the Similes:** The teacher will read similes. Students guess who or what it is:

1. I'm as hungry as a \_\_\_\_\_. (horse)
2. He ran as fast as a \_\_\_\_\_. (cheetah)
3. It was shining as bright as a \_\_\_\_\_. (star)
4. Her smile was like \_\_\_\_\_. (The sun shining)
5. Her hair was as blond as \_\_\_\_\_. (A field of wheat)
6. He was as busy as a \_\_\_\_\_. (bee)
7. He is as cool as a \_\_\_\_\_. (cucumber)
8. It was as dry as a \_\_\_\_\_. (bone)
9. He was as blind as a \_\_\_\_\_. (bat)
10. Grandpa was as wise as a \_\_\_\_\_. (owl)

- **Draw the Smiles:** Ask students to draw these similes or the similes above: (1) He was as busy as a beaver. (2) She was as cute as a button. (3) He was as silly as a goose. (4) Her hair is as smooth as silk. (5) The line was as straight as an arrow. (6) The kitten was as blind as a bat. (7) His fried egg was as flat as a pancake. (7) The cat's teeth were as sharp as needles.

- **Change the Similes to Metaphors:** Change the similes above to metaphors by taking out the words AS or LIKE and substituting a "to be" verb (is, are, be, is, and was). For example: The simile is, "He was as busy as a beaver." The metaphor is, "He is a busy beaver." Simile: "I'm as hungry as a horse." Metaphor: "I am very hungry." This is best done as a whole group lesson.

- **Silly Similes:** Students fill in the blanks:

1. She was as \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_.
2. He \_\_\_\_\_ like a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. It was as \_\_\_\_\_ as a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. He was as \_\_\_\_\_ as a \_\_\_\_\_.
5. She is as \_\_\_\_\_ as a \_\_\_\_\_.

- **What Does it Mean?** Ask students to define each simile in kid's language. Choose similes from above. For example: "He ran as fast as a cheetah." *He can really run fast!* "It was shining as bright as a star." *It was shining brightly.* "Her smile was like the sun shining." *She had a beautiful smile.*

- **Simile Practice:** The teacher reads these sentences. Students respond with, "Yes, good Job," if it is a simile; or "Oops, Try Again," if it is not a simile.

1. My dog is as wise as an owl. (Yes, good Job)
2. The snake sings. (Oops, Try Again)
3. Gold is pretty, gold is money. (Oops)
4. A computer is like the desk it sits on. (Yes)
5. Moon screams at the sun. (Oops)
6. Gold, gold, gold, gold, Where's the gold? (Oops)
7. My jacket is like a piece of cloth with a heater. (Yes)
8. Light swims through my window. (Oops)
9. My shirt is like a bird. (Yes)
10. The stars are bright tonight. (Oops)
11. My dog's eyes are as kind as a rainbow. (Yes)

- **Simple Poem:** "Playing the piano is like a bird soaring in the sky.  
When you play the keys it is like flying your fingers across the piano.  
The notes are like clouds drifting through the sky."

- **Find the Similes:**

Flint

An emerald is as green as grass,  
A ruby red is blood;  
A sapphire shines as blue as heaven,  
A flint lies in the mud.

A diamond is a brilliant stone,  
To catch the world's desire  
An opal holds a fiery spark;  
But a flint holds fire.

Christina Rossetti  
1838-1894

What is flint? Flint is a very hard quartz stone that produces a spark when struck by steel.

- Find the Similes in this Poem about Hockey:

Hockey

Hockey is like reading;  
You get into it and then you never want to stop.  
You feel like you are in a different world.  
Hockey is like school.  
You have to do your work and  
you have to practice or you will get an "F."  
Hockey is like math  
You get stronger and before you know it  
You're getting an  
"A"  
You're scoring goals.  
Now, that's  
Hockey!

- Finish the Snow Poem:

Snow Poem

The snow was as soft as \_\_\_\_\_.  
The snow was as deep as \_\_\_\_\_.  
The snow was as white as \_\_\_\_\_.  
The snow was piled as high as \_\_\_\_\_.  
The snow was coming down as fast as \_\_\_\_\_.  
The snow was as light as \_\_\_\_\_.  
The snow was as cold as \_\_\_\_\_.  
The snow was as beautiful as \_\_\_\_\_.

- Write Other Poems: Use the same format as the Snow Poem. For example:  
"The rain was . . . "  
"The hail was . . . "  
"The sand was . . . "



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