

Often we get into the habit of using the same words over and over again. Synonyms are words that have similar meanings. Increase your vocabulary by deciphering the following references to wellknown fairy tales and nursery rhymes. If you are not sure what some of the words mean, look them up in the dictionary or thesaurus to help you solve the rhyme. The first one has been done for you.

1. Unique Individual Mortally Injured in Fall

## Humpty Dumpty Sat on a Wall

2. Serious Overcrowding Discovered in Unique Dwelling
3. Remote Country Home Vandalized by Blonde
4. Friendless Waif Adopted by Group of Miners
5. Musical Feline, Amused Canine Witness Lunar Leap
6. Couple Suffering Dietary Allergies Reach Agreement
7. Elderly Housewife and Canine Pet Face Starvation
8. Lovely Somnambulist Wakened by Royal Caress
9. Rural Homemaker Terrorized by Sightless Rodents
10. Shepherdess Proves Derelict in Her Duty

In the following sentences, change each of the bold words to a new word that means the same thing or is its synonym.
11. Once upon a time, there were three bears. $\qquad$
12. They are trying to locate her mother. $\qquad$
13. He is a vivacious man who enjoys life. $\qquad$
14. The con artist was trying to swindle him. $\qquad$
15. They took a very prudent approach to the job. $\qquad$

## Answer Key

Page 5 Getting to the Root A.

| 1. law | 5. build |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2. polite | 6. power |
| 3. teach | 7. dream |
| 4. calm | 8. skate |
| C. |  |
| 1. commotion-disturbance, turmoil |  |
| 2. mission-to send on assignment |  |
| 3. emotional-affected or stirred by emotion |  |
| 4. expose-to loy open |  |
| 5. commission-empower, authorize |  |
| 6. exposition-display |  |

## Page 6 Before and After

A. Answers will vary.
B. Answers will vary slightly.

| 1. kindly | 6. thoughtless |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2. bucketful | 7. breezy |
| 3. agreeable | 8. quietly |
| 4. careless | 9. permanently |
| 5. mountainous | 10. thoughtful |

## Page 7 Twenty Questions

Suggested Answers

| 1. dirt | 11. connected |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 2. automobile | 12. planned |  |
| 3. common center | 13. variety |  |
| 4. enclosure | 14. concealed |  |
| 5. analogous |  |  |
| 6. information |  |  |
| 7. artificial | 15. associated |  |
| 8. Greek | 16. leaders |  |
| 9. distinguished | 17. hallways |  |
| 10. completed | 19. solely |  |
| The Pentagon |  |  |

## Page 8 Antonyms

| Across | Down |
| :--- | :---: |
| 1. common | 2. opaque |
| 4. talkative | 3. stabilize |
| 5. flexible | 4. tragic |
| 7. send | 6. brief |
|  | 7. stingy |

## Page 9 Say it Again!

2. Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe
3. Goldilocks and the Three Bears
4. Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
5. Hey Diddle Diddle, the Cat and the Fiddle
6. Jack Sprat Could Eat No Fat
7. Old Mother Hubbard
8. Sleeping Beauty
9. Three Blind Mice
10. Little Bo Peep
11. upon-on
12. locate-find
13. vivacious-lively
14. swindle-deceive
15. prudent-careful

Answers 11-15 may vary.

## Page 10 Happenin' Homophones

| First paragraph |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| inn-in | witch-which |
| too-to | wood-would |
| knew-new | affect-effect |
| four-for | half-have |
| band-banned | buy-by |
| bee-be | by-buy |

Second paragraph
too-to
two-to
inn-in
Third paragraph
their-they're
bee-be
find-fined

## Page 11 Double Duty

Answers will vary.
Look for the correct usage of each word.

## Page 12 Contraction Control

Answers will vary.
Dear Mom,
I'm writing to let you know that we miss you very much. We hope you are having a great time on your trip. Things haven't been the greatest around home. We have forgotten to set our alarm twice this week! Don't plan on finding the laundry done when you get home. We can't find the laundry detergent. Dad said that I shouldn't go to the gym with my friends, so that I can baby sit Sally when she gets out of school. Isn't that a bummer? Aren't you glad that you aren't here? How's Aunt Jen? She's one of my favorites, you know. I'm hoping that you are having fun without us. We've been realizing how much you do around here. We'll be there to pick you up at the airport on
Saturday.
Love,
Your daughter

## Page 13 What's in a Name?

1. E, J, B, C, H, I, D, G, F, A
2. Answers will vary.

## Page 14 Cut to the Chase

A.

1. ad
2. burger
3. sub
4. fridge
5. tux
6. photo
7. fan
8. specs
9. gym
10. taxi, cab
C. and D. Answers will vary

## Page 15 Compound Words

Answers may vary.

## Page 16 Write On!

Answers may vary.
Page 17 Spelling Scavenger Hunt

1. throwing of a person or thing out the window
2. di-fal'-kāt
3. Latin
4. par-a-lan-guage
5. (a) to have existence
(b) to have or acquire necessities of life
(c) to hold true
6. noun
7. eremitic, aeromedical eremitism
8. 1748
9. adjective
10. summit

## Page 18 Connotation and Denotation <br> A. <br> 1. positive, negative 4. negative, positive <br> 2. positive, negative <br> 5. positive, negative <br> 3. negative, positive <br> 6. positive, negative <br> B. Answers will vary.

## Page 19 It's All in the Spelling

| A. | B. |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1. seal | 1. dive |
| 2. dessert | 2. cage |
| 3. reed | 3. next |
| 4. dinner | 4. rent |
| 5. chosen | 5. hut |
| 6. tease | 6. cave |
| 7. louse | 7. cove |
| 8. meat | 8. rate |

## Page 20 Plural Words

A.

| 1. vetoes | 10. bunches |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2. histories | 11. teeth |
| 3. addresses | 12. lives |
| 4. churches | 13. messes |
| 5. mice | 14. companies |
| 6. potatoes | 15. inches |
| 7. leaves | 16. coaches |
| 8. deer | 17. beliefs |
| 9. worries | 18. thieves |

Page 22 Puzzling Vocabulary Answers will vary.

## Page 23 Geometrically Speaking



