

3.RL.4 Parent Helper

I CAN DETERMINE THE MEANING OF WORDS AND PHRASES AS THEY ARE USED IN A TEXT, DISTINGUISHING LITERAL FROM NON-LITERAL LANGUAGE.

Your child is learning to read texts with more complex literary devices including non-literal language. This can be very confusing if your child has not been exposed to much non-literal language.

Sample Questions To Ask Your Child:

- What does ___ mean in this sentence?
- What do you think the author is trying to say when he/she uses that phrase?
- What clues can you find in the sentence or paragraph to help you figure out the meaning of that word or phrase?

Vocabulary Terms:

- Determine
- Phrases
- Literal
- Non-Literal
- Context Clues
- Distinguish

Need more resources?

Amelia Bedelia books are a great series to use to teach the difference between literal and non-literal language. Amelia Bedelia often gets the two mixed up and does lots of silly things.

Examples of non-literal language:

- Your eyes are bigger than your stomach.
- It's raining cats and dogs.
- You have a heart of gold.
- I am as sick as a dog.
- Break a leg.

What does *agitated* mean in this sentence:

Mom was agitated there were toys everywhere on the floor.

What does *agitated* mean in this sentence:

The washer agitated the clothes in the machine so they could get nice and clean.