

What to do today

IMPORTANT Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.

1. Read 'A Small Dragon' by Brian Patten

Read the poem twice aloud and enjoy it.

2. Revise Noun Phrases

Use the [What are Noun Phrases?](#) to remind you of these.

Now complete the [Noun phrases Activities](#).

3. Now for some writing

Imagine that you too find a dragon ...

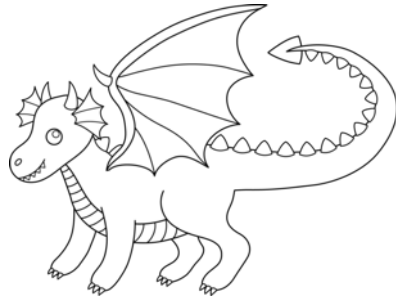
He is yours. What is he like? Add descriptions to the dragon picture.

Try these Fun-Time Extras

- Draw your own dragon.
- Write about what you do together.
- How many words can you make using these letters?

D R A G O N

A Small Dragon



I've found a small dragon in the woodshed.
Think it must have come from deep inside a forest
because it's damp and green and leaves
are still reflecting in its eyes.

I fed it on many things, tried grass,
the roots of stars, hazel-nut and dandelion,
but it stared up at me as if to say, I need
foods you can't provide.

It made a nest among the coal,
not unlike a bird's but larger,
it is out of place here,
and is quite silent.

If you believed in it I would come
hurrying to your house to let you share my wonder,
but I want instead to see
if you yourself will pass this way.

Brian Patten,

from *Collected Love Poems*, Harper Collins 2007

What are Noun Phrases?

Adjectives



Adjectives describe **nouns**.

Adjectives can come beside the **noun**.

The dragon What sort of dragon?

Adjectives can complete a sentence.

The huge, terrifying dragon Go on...

The huge, terrifying dragon felt... How did the dragon feel?

Can you spot the adjectives?

The huge, terrifying dragon felt puzzled.

The **huge, terrifying** dragon felt **puzzled**.

Adverbs

Adverbs add to adjectives – they tell us more about the description.

The **silly** dragon...

The **smart** princess ...

How silly is the dragon?

How smart is the princess?

Now try it yourself!



We can choose an *adverb*.

- extremely
- very
- unusually
- really
- exceptionally
- quite

Now we can finish the sentence.

The **extremely silly** dragon tired himself out.

The **really smart** princess outwitted the dragon.

Noun phrases

Highlight the adjective

Highlight the adverb

Noun phrase = the words giving more detail about a noun

A **dragon**

What is the noun being described?

Which dragon?

A **dragon** in the sky

Where?

A **dragon** in the sky over the mountains

Tell me more about the dragon



A **scary dragon** in the sky over the mountains

There was a **really scary dragon** in the sky over the mountains.

Noun phrase



A dragon

A dragon on the mountain

A very scary dragon on the mountain above the town.

Now you have a go...

Start with a noun.

Add description about what, where or when.

Add adjectives and adverbs.

Hint!

Think of something really good to describe.

Writing Noun Phrases

Examples

Start with a noun

girl

Add adjectives

a happy, laughing girl

Add adverbs

an extremely happy, laughing girl

Add phrases about where and when

an extremely happy laughing girl
in the garden

Do this for three different characters, creatures or things.

Then write a short paragraph about your three chosen things or creatures.

You can be as imaginative as you want!



The scarily hungry green dragon in the high and rather snowy mountains flew toward the almost empty house in the valley.

My Dragon

Imagine that you have discovered a dragon of your own ...

Is it scary or cuddly?

What does it look like?



Where did you find it?

What is it like to be with?