

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

To learn the function of verbs in sentences by collecting and classifying examples of verbs from own knowledge.

CURRICULUM LINKS

NLS: Year 2, Term 2; Year 3, Term 1; Year 4, Term 1

What can you do?

What you need

A board and writing materials; a number of balls (enough for one per pair); a hall or outdoor space; a selection of different sized balls; tubes of card; labels; circles of brightly-coloured card; pens.

What to do

- Whilst writing *verb* on the board, ask the class what you are doing. Confirm that you are writing. Explain that *to write* is a verb and that verbs are a special group of words which explain an action, or a state of being.
- Mime other actions for the class to guess, and encourage them to name the root verb, such as *to laugh* or *to cry*. Write these examples on the board.
- When you feel they understand the concept of a verb ask each child to give you an example of a root verb. Tell them to pass if they can't think of one.

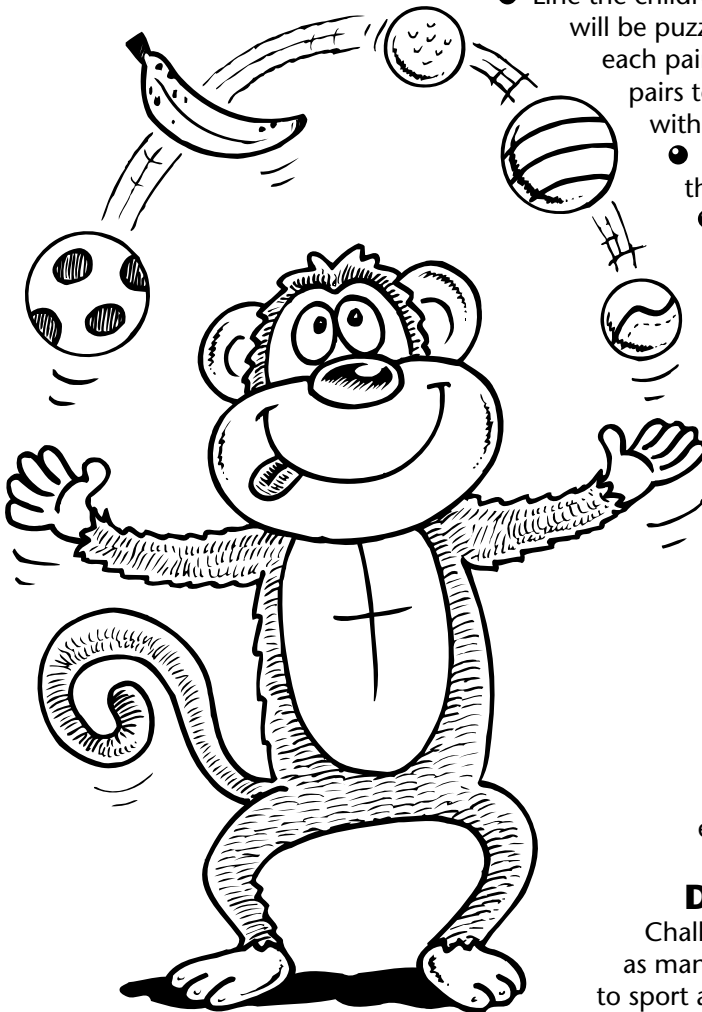
- Line the children up in pairs and go into the hall (they will be puzzled!). Spread the pairs out and hand each pair a ball. Challenge them to work in their pairs to find as many things that they can do with their ball as possible in five minutes.

- Start the timer and circulate, checking that the children are on task.

- After five minutes, stop the activity, collect the balls and ask each pair to tell you one thing they did with their ball. Tell them you want their answers in sentences, for example *I threw my ball*. Ask the children to identify the verb in their sentence (*to throw*).

- Back in the classroom, record the selection of verbs the children found, such as *to roll*, *to drop*, *to bounce*, *to juggle*, in sentences on the board.

- A selection of different sized balls with the root verbs stuck on as labels could be used to make a small display. Balance the balls on tubes of card. The children could write up what they did onto bright card circles to display behind the balls. For example, *I threw my ball*.



Differentiation

Challenge more able children to collect as many verbs as they can think of related to sport and put them into sentences. Provide assistance for less able children when writing up what they did onto their card circles.