



Literal vs. Nonliteral Meanings

Today's Standard

3.L.5a - Distinguish the literal and nonliteral meanings of words and phrases in context (e.g., take steps).

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Understanding idioms in stories and conversations.; Interpreting figurative language in poetry.; Deciphering metaphors and similes in reading passages.; Using context clues to understand nonliteral language in instructions.; Recognizing and explaining jokes or puns.

Today I Learned

Today, we learned about the difference between literal and nonliteral meanings of words and phrases. For example, 'take steps' can mean to walk, but it can also mean to make progress.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes, kids might think that all phrases should be taken literally, which can be confusing. They might also think that nonliteral meanings are wrong, which isn't true. We need to practice understanding both types of meanings.

Quiz Me

- What does 'take steps' mean literally?
- Can 'take steps' mean something other than walking?
- What is an idiom?
- Give an example of a nonliteral meaning.
- Why is it important to understand nonliteral meanings?

Help Me

Understanding literal and nonliteral meanings helps us understand stories and conversations better. For example, if someone says 'break the ice,' they don't mean to actually break ice, but to start a conversation.