



Literal vs. Nonliteral Language

Today's Standard

3.RL.4 - Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Identifying idioms in stories; Understanding metaphors in poems; Interpreting similes in songs; Clarifying meanings in everyday conversations

Today I Learned

Today, we learned how to tell the difference between words that mean exactly what they say and words that have a special meaning.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes, kids think that all words mean exactly what they say. But some words have special meanings, like 'raining cats and dogs.' Another mistake is thinking these special words don't make sense, but they do!

Quiz Me

- What does 'literal' mean?
- Can you give an example of a nonliteral phrase?
- What is an idiom?
- How do you identify a metaphor?
- Why is it important to understand figurative language?

Help Me

Understanding words and phrases helps us know what stories and poems really mean. For example, 'raining cats and dogs' means it's raining very hard, not that animals are falling from the sky!