

Powerful Verbs



What is a **verb**?

What Is a Verb?

A **verb** is a **doing, being or action word**.
Look at the verbs in these sentences.

The wolf **walked** into the woods.

He **followed** the path as he **strolled** towards the straw cottage.

When he reached the old, rickety door, he **tapped** it and **waited**.

If you are still not sure, head to BBC Bitesize for a revision video and activities.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zrqqtfr/articles/zpxhdxs>

Boring Verbs

Some sentences contain verbs that are just a little boring!
They don't give lots of information about the action or make the text very exciting.

One day, Goldilocks **walked** through the forest.



We can replace 'walked' with a different, powerful verb which shows the action clearly and gives clues about how or why the action is taking place.

One day, Goldilocks **skipped** through the forest.

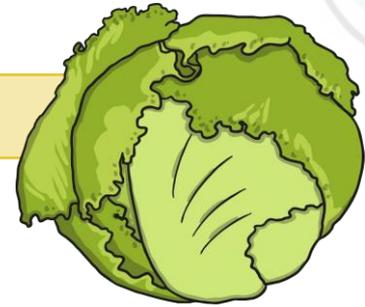
One day, Goldilocks **sauntered** through the forest.

One day, Goldilocks **meandered** through the forest.

Improve the Verb

How can we replace the verb in this sentence to improve the sentence?

1. Peter **put** the lettuce into the bag.

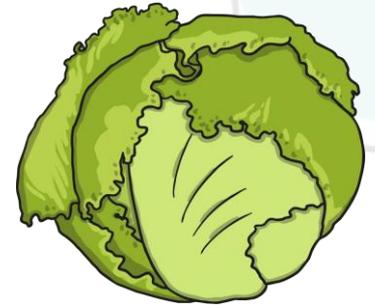


Write a sentence on a piece of paper that changes the verb 'put' for a better verb.

Improve the Verb

How can we replace the verb in this sentence to improve the sentence?

Peter **put** the lettuce into the bag.



You could have replaced 'put' with...

dropped

forced

slipped

placed

hid

threw

shoved

slid

stowed

Improve the Verb

How can we replace the verb in this sentence to improve the sentence?

2. Jack **threw** the beans out of the window.



Write a sentence on a piece of paper that changes the verb 'threw' for a better verb.

Improve the Verb

Jack **threw** the beans out of the window.



You could have replaced '**threw**' with...

launched

tossed

slung

hurled

catapulted

volleyed

heaved

lobbed

propelled

Improve the Verb

How can we replace the verb in this sentence to improve the sentence?

3. The haggard witch **fell** towards the ground.



Write a sentence on a piece of paper that changes the verb 'fell' for a better verb.

Improve the Verb

How can we replace the verb in this sentence to improve the sentence?

3. The haggard witch **fell** towards the ground.



You could have replaced '**fell**' with...

hurtled

plunged

descended

tumbled

plummeted

sunk

crashed

dropped

toppled

Improve the Verb

How can we replace the verb in this sentence to improve the sentence?

4. Red Riding Hood **walked** bravely into the forest.



Write a sentence on a piece of paper that changes the verb 'walked' for a better verb.

Improve the Verb

How can we replace the verb in this sentence to improve the sentence?

4. Red Riding Hood **walked** bravely into the forest.

You could have replaced '**walked**' with...



stomped

marched

hiked

stormed

pounded

advanced

charged

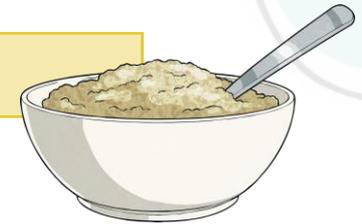
headed

strode

Improve the Verb

How can we replace the verb in this sentence to improve the sentence?

5. Goldilocks **ate** the bowl of porridge.

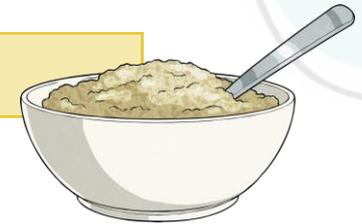


Write a sentence on a piece of paper that changes the verb 'ate' for a better verb.

Improve the Verb

How can we replace the verb in this sentence to improve the sentence?

5. Goldilocks **ate** the bowl of porridge.



You could have replaced '**ate**' with...

gobbled

ingested

feasted on

wolfed down

nibbled

scoffed

devoured

munched on

gorged on

Improve the Passage

Can you improve all the verbs in this passage? Choose a verb that will create a clear picture for the reader. Use the word bank below to help you if you need it. Write out the new version on a piece of paper.

The morning had finally **arrived**. Jack **woke** before sunrise and **went** to the window. There was a beanstalk. He quickly **washed** his face, **put** on his clothes and **put** on his shoes before **running** outside. He **stood** at the bottom of a colossal beanstalk, **looking** up with wonder.

Word Bank

roused	rose	scrubbed	prodded	stirred	threw
donned	pulled	forced	sprinted	scampered	gazed
marvelled	observed	splashed	freshened	dampened	cleansed

Well done! Now enjoy a break!

