

The Grapes Grow as Sweet as...

Standards of Learning

Language Arts: 4.5, 5.4

Objective

Students will:

- Identify and utilize similes in writing

Materials

- The Grapes Grow Sweet by Lynne Tuft
- Simile worksheet, attached

Background Knowledge

The Grapes Grow Sweet is the story of a young boy who lives on a vineyard. This will be the first year he can really assist with the harvest, because he has grown big enough. The story flows from the dormancy of the grapes, through their growth, to the final harvest. The text is full of vocabulary and scientific concepts.

Procedure

1. Read the book pausing to discuss and identify new vocabulary.
2. Review the definition and purpose of a simile.
3. Have students complete the simile worksheet.

Extension

Have students choose one of their similes to illustrate. Collect and use to make a simile bulletin board.



The Grapes Grow Sweet as Summer Vacation

Introduction: A simile is a figure of speech comparing two unlike things. They are often introduced by “like” or “as.” The title of this workshop is a sample of a simile. Similes make writing more interesting.

Directions: Listen to the teacher read The Grapes Grow Sweet by Lynne Tuft. The author uses several similes to strengthen the story. The similes are below.

- ...the grapes hang in heavy clusters, each one big as the end of Julian’s thumb and dark as the night sky.
- One day they (the grapes) are sweet as jam.
- ...Julian and his mother get up while the sky is still dark with sleep.
- It (the grape) is as sweet as summer.

Below is a chart to display the things being compared.

the size of the grapes	compared to	Julian’s thumb
the darkness of the grapes	compared to	the night sky
the sweetness of the grapes	compared to	jam
the darkness of the sky	compared to	sleep
the grapes’ taste	compared to	summer

Complete the following chart as a comparison that makes sense to you and that you could use in writing.

summer vacation	compared to	
outside recess	compared to	
beginning of school	compared to	
fall	compared to	
new clothes	compared to	

Create a story about summer vacation ending and school beginning, using at least three of the similes you created above.

