

## Synonym Vocabulary and Writing Activities

\*\* After students play my synonym matching games (found in GrammarSongs Digital Plan) I allow them to use a thesaurus to create their own synonym flip matching games to play with one another. With blank index cards, students can gain practice recognizing synonyms, using a thesaurus, and expanding their vocabularies all at one. Furthermore, they have a great time sharing their games and learning from each other. This activity makes an easy, engaging literacy center.

\*\* Expand on (or use as an introductory activity for) the GrammarSongs Grammar Activity "Using Synonyms While Writing" by inviting students to "juice up" boring sentences. Either provide them with boring sentences, allow them to peruse basal readers or books from the classroom library, or encourage them to explore their own writing from their writing folders. For an easy and fun **NO PREP** activity, invite students to each write a plain or rather bland sentence on the first line of a sheet of notebook paper. Have students trade sentences to jazz up each others' by substituting basic nouns, verbs, adjectives, and other parts of speech with "juicier" synonyms. Continue trading papers as long as interest ensues. When wishing to conclude the activity, give each paper back to its original sentence creator. Encourage each student to read the "juicier" versions of his/her original sentence, and to share the sentence he/she deems the "juiciest" of them all! Synonym fun!!

*Pitch and Throw, Grasp and Know* by Brian Cleary

*Stroll and Walk, Babble and Talk: More About Synonyms* by Brian Cleary

*If You Were a Synonym* by Michael Dahl