

Directions: Students can work cooperatively or independently to sort the following strips by categorizing the type of figurative language being used: metaphor, simile, hyperbole, personification, or idiom.

### Figurative Language Sort

You're pulling my leg!

I was so embarrassed, I almost died!

The mean boy was as vicious as a great white shark!

She was a turtle on the racetrack.

The warm, juicy apple pie was calling my name.

Emily broke her back shoveling hay at the farm.

Noah was a calculator today during math class.

Lauren was like a cheetah when she ran the race.

Joey was so hungry, he ate 100 hamburgers in one second!

Mrs. Corbett had to go to the bathroom a million times during yoga!

The dictionary was so thick it weighed 1.000 pounds!

The ballerina was a beautiful picture of grace and talent.

The closet door groaned when I opened it slowly.

She was as tall as a giraffe on the basketball court.

The paid vacation was just icing on the cake!

I was in a pickle when I forgot my math homework.

At exactly 5:30am, my alarm clock sprang to life.

The sun smiled down on me!

The fog crept in slowly, like a lioness stalking her prey.

The fireflies were lanterns flaming in the night sky.

My math book announced we would be learning about decimals.



Answer Key:

Idioms:

I was in a pickle when I forgot my math homework.

You're pulling my leg!

The paid vacation was just icing on the cake!

Personification:

My stomach protested as it grumbled like a fussy old man. (also a simile)

The copy machine ate the math tests and spit them out.

My math book announced we would be learning about decimals.

The sun smiled down on me.

At exactly 5:30am, my alarm clock sprang to life!

The warm, juicy apple pie was calling my name.

The closet door groaned when I opened it slowly.

The fog crept in slowly, like a lioness stalking her prey. (also a simile)

Hyperbole:

The dictionary was so thick it weighed 1,000 pounds!

Mrs. Corbett had to go to the bathroom a million times during yoga!

Joey was so hungry he ate 100 hamburgers in one second!

Emily broke her back shoveling hay on the farm.

I was so embarrassed I almost died!

Simile:

The captured criminal cried like a little girl.

My stomach protested as it grumbled like a fussy old man. (also personification)

The fog crept in slowly, like a lioness stalking her prey. (also personification)

She was as tall as a giraffe on the basketball court. (also could be a hyperbole)

Lauren was like a cheetah when she ran the race.

The mean boy was as vicious as a great white shark.

Metaphor:

The fireflies were lanterns flaming in the night sky.

The ballerina was a beautiful picture of grace and talent.

Noah was a calculator today during math class.

She was a turtle on the racetrack. (Could also be a hyperbole)

**\*\*Use the graphic organizer on the next page to cite examples of figurative as it is used in picture books, novels, poetry, basal readers, or any other piece of literature. You could also use it to analyze the figurative language in *My Nosy Neighbor* located on the page just after the graphic organizer.**

Analyzing Figurative Language  
Evidence Page

Type of Figurative Language	Specific Example from The Text	Evidence to help me identify the type of figurative language
Simile		
Who/What it describes:	What it really meant:	
Metaphor		
Who/What it describes:	What it really meant:	
Idiom		
Who/What it describes:	What it really meant:	
Hyperbole		
Who/What it describes:	What it really meant:	
Personification		
Who/What it describes:	What it really meant:	

When differentiating types of figurative language, I feel \_\_\_\_\_ confident  
 \_\_\_\_\_ unsure                      \_\_\_\_\_ I need more help!

Analysis Passage for  
Figurative Language

Read the following short story. Look for any examples of figurative language (simile, metaphor, hyperbole, idiom, personification). Then identify the sentence or phrase of figurative language by highlighting the phrase or sentence using the following color code (simile=red, metaphor=blue, idiom=green, personification=orange, hyperbole=yellow)

My Nosy Neighbor

It always seems my nosy neighbor, Mrs. Finnick, is watching everything I do. She examines my every move like observing an ant under a magnifying glass. Her eyes are video cameras recording every event that happens on our street.

Last Saturday, my dog, Rover, hopped over our fence and ran down the street. Mrs. Finnick's door screeched open as soon as Rover's paws hit the pavement! I knew I was in a pickle when I saw Mrs. Finnick come into her yard. She was so angry, she was about to explode! Steam was coming out of her ears!

I called for Rover to come to me, but he ran to Mrs. Finnick instead. Boy, was he barking up the wrong tree! He sat down in front of Mrs. Finnick like a student in a classroom.

Then, an amazing historical event happened right before my very eyes! Mrs. Finnick began to pet Rover. Then, she reached into the jaws of her gaping coat pocket, took out a dog treat, and gave it to Rover! Rover licked Mrs. Finnick's hand like a kitten enjoying a saucer of milk.

Maybe I was wrong about Mrs. Finnick. She was as happy as a clam. She looked over at me and smiled.

I went over to Mrs. Finnick to get Rover and bring him back home. I thanked her for her kindness. She told me that she loved dogs, and that Rover was always welcome at her house. Then she gave me a homemade cookie. It was icing on the cake! What a great day!