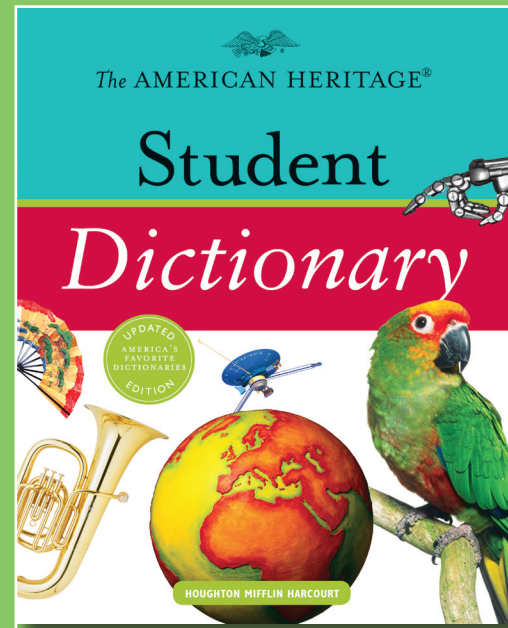
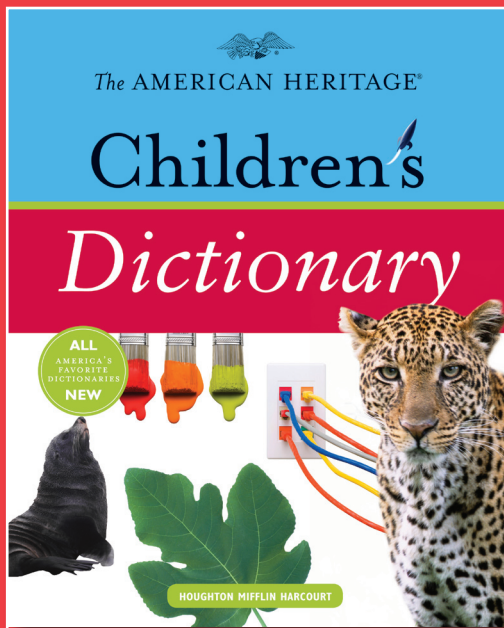
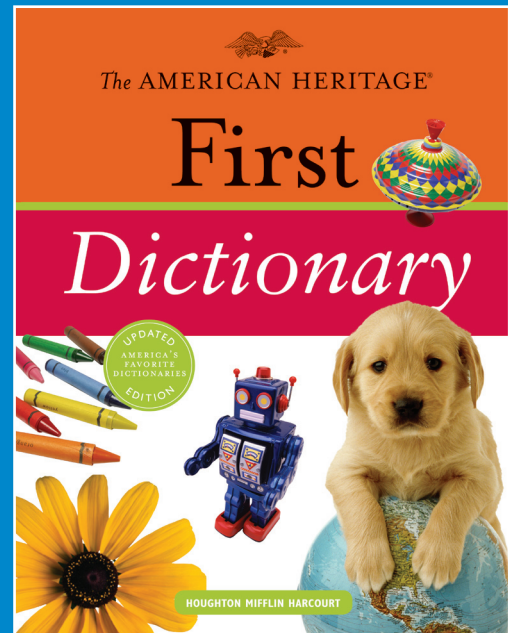
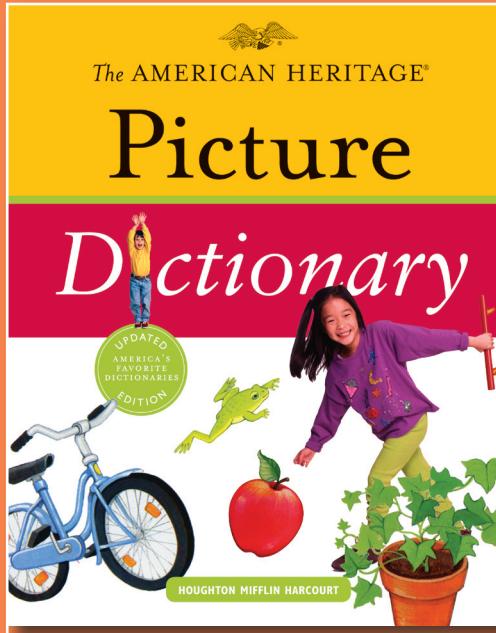
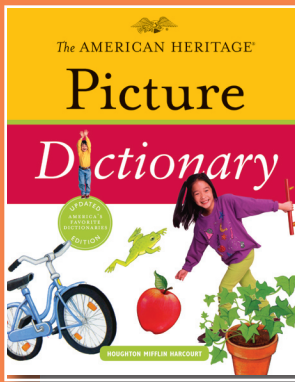


# AMERICAN HERITAGE® DICTIONARIES

## Getting to Know Dictionaries from A to Z



**A helpful tool for teachers, parents, students, and librarians**



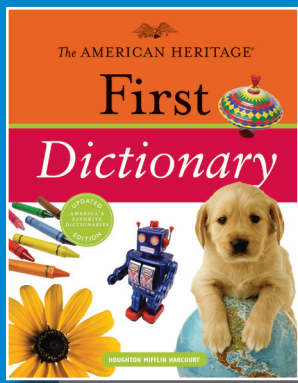
## The American Heritage® Picture Dictionary

144 pages • \$15.95 hardcover • ISBN-13: 978-0-547-21596-9 • ISBN-10: 0-547-21596-7

*The American Heritage Picture Dictionary is a colorful and lively dictionary for preschoolers and beginning readers.*

1. Identify things in different groups that can be found in the book, such as foods, animals, and things to do. Make a list of these words. Which ones are your favorites?
2. Find Freddie. Freddie is the black-and-white dog that appears throughout the book.
  - Find all the entries that Freddie is in.
  - Make a list of these words.
  - Then start over and see if you can find Freddie by looking up these words.
3. Choose three or more illustrations from the dictionary. Make a story using the corresponding words in sentences. Here are some groups of words you might start with:
  - dig/garden/vegetable
  - book/night/sleep/dream
  - cold/coat/winter/snow
4. Look up a word you like and ask questions about it. At **apple**, you could ask:
  - Where do apples come from?
  - What is the shape of an apple?
  - What colors can apples have?
  - Are these words also in the dictionary? Where?
5. Look at one of the thematic illustrations in the back of the book.
  - Use the words in it to describe what is going on.
  - Make a list of the words you used.
  - See if these words are in the dictionary.





# The American Heritage® First Dictionary

416 pages • \$17.95 hardcover • ISBN-13: 978-0-547-21597-6 • ISBN-10: 0-547-21597-5

The new edition of *The American Heritage First Dictionary* is designed for beginning readers in grades K–2 (ages 5–8).

1. Sometimes two short words can be joined to form a longer word. Match each word in column A with a word in column B to form a **compound word** that is in your dictionary.

A	B
after	room
high	board
score	ball
bath	noon
base	chair

2. Find the words that **rhyme**.

- Find a word on page 121 that rhymes with **sun**.
- Find a word on page 24 that rhymes with **tree**.
- Can you find two words that rhyme with **two** and begin with the letter **d**?  
(Hint: The words are on pages 83 and 87.)

3. **Synonyms** are words that mean the same thing. Say the missing word or fill in the blank.

A word on page 254 that means the same as **gift** is \_\_\_\_\_.

A word on page 139 that means the same as **glad** is \_\_\_\_\_.

A word on page 69 that means the same as **sofa** is \_\_\_\_\_.

4. The words in the dictionary are in **ABC order**. Can you list these words in ABC order?

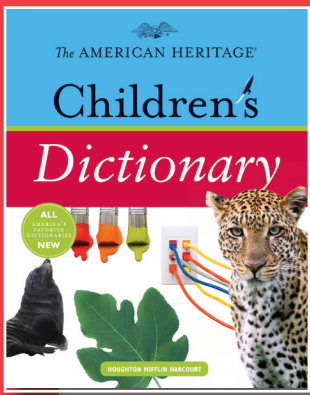
*scissors, knife, fork, spoon, dish, cup, pitcher*

Now see if you can find these words in your dictionary. Use the **guidewords** on the top of the pages to help you.

5. Match the word in column A with its **opposite** in column B. Look up these words in your dictionary.

A	B
shout	crooked
early	spend
asleep	entrance
straight	late
exit	find
save	awake
lose	whisper





# The American Heritage® Children's Dictionary

896 pages • \$19.95 hardcover • ISBN-13: 978-0-547-21255-5 • ISBN-10: 0-547-21255-0

*The American Heritage Children's Dictionary is an award-winning dictionary for children in grades 3–6 (ages 8–11).*

**1. Homophones** are words that sound alike even though they may be spelled differently. In your dictionary, you can find words that sound alike listed at the end of entries. Use your dictionary to fill in the blanks below.

a. These words sound alike: \_\_\_\_\_, stair.

As I was climbing up the \_\_\_\_\_, my mother was \_\_\_\_\_ down at me from the ledge.

b. These words sound alike: \_\_\_\_\_, pier.

We \_\_\_\_\_ into the fog that had covered the harbor, but we could not see the end of the \_\_\_\_\_.

c. These words sound alike: \_\_\_\_\_, blue.

The wind \_\_\_\_\_ the boat over the \_\_\_\_\_ water.

**3. Match the definitions** on the left with the example sentences on the right.

A series of regular or usual activities; a standard procedure.

To bring two or more items together; link.

Without motion.

In a very cautious or careful way.

A new road **connects** the two towns.

The air was **still** before the storm.

Walking the dog is part of my daily **routine**.

I **gingerly** patted the large dog.

**2.** Your dictionary spells out the different **forms of a word** at the end of each entry.

a. Fill in the blank with the plural form of the noun **leaf**.

We raked the \_\_\_\_\_ into a big pile.

b. Fill in the blanks with forms of the adjective **itchy**.

The rash I got from chickenpox was \_\_\_\_\_ than the one from poison ivy.

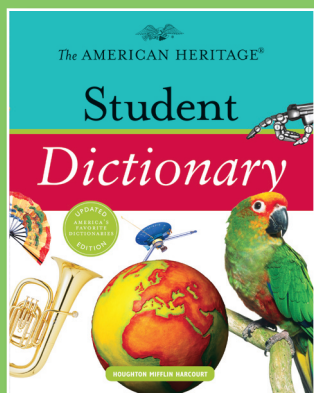
This bug bite is the \_\_\_\_\_ bite I've ever had!

c. Fill in the blanks with forms of the verb **stir**.

While we waited in the canoe, I lazily \_\_\_\_\_ the water with my finger.

Remember to keep \_\_\_\_\_ the soup while it is cooking.





## The American Heritage® Student Dictionary

1,088 pages • \$19.95 hardcover • ISBN-13: 978-0-547-21598-3 • ISBN-10: 0-547-21598-3

*The American Heritage Student Dictionary is the perfect dictionary for students in grades 6–9 (ages 11–15).*

**1. The etymologies** tell you where a word came from and how old it is. They appear in brackets at the end of many entries in the dictionary.

**a.** Look at the etymology for the word **plate**. When was this word first written down in English? Now look at the etymology for **fork**. When was it written down? Which word has been in the language longer?

**b.** **Weird** and **strange** are synonyms, but they have very different histories. Look at the etymology at **weird**. What was this word's meaning when it was first written down in English? Now look at the etymology at **strange**. What is the meaning of the Latin word it comes from?

**2. Synonyms** are words that have similar meanings. The dictionary shows words with similar meanings in notes throughout the book.

**a.** Look at the note at the word **smart**. What other synonyms are listed there? Can you use these words in a sentence?

**b.** Look at the note at the word **neat**. What other synonyms are listed there? Can you use these words in a sentence?

**3. Homophones** are words that sound alike. The dictionary shows words that sound alike at the end of entries throughout the book.

**a.** Look at the entry for **way**. What homophones are listed there?

**b.** Look at the entry for **new**. What homophones are listed there?

**4. Notes** in the margins of the dictionary tell you more about words.

**a.** Look at the **Regional Note** for **tonic**. Can you name three other words used for carbonated soft drinks? In what parts of the United States are these words used?

**b.** Look at the **Usage Note** for **infer**. Should you use **infer** or **imply** in the following sentence?

His frown could \_\_\_\_\_ that he doesn't approve of your idea.

**c.** Look at the **Word History Note** for **sauce**. What other English words come from the same word in Latin as **sauce**? What is the Latin word and what did it mean?



# Answer Key

(Answers are given only for questions that are not open-ended.)



## Answers for

### The American Heritage® Picture Dictionary

1. Some foods are apple, banana, carrot, cookie, corn, juice, milk, orange, peach, sandwich, soup.  
Some animals are alligator, bear, bird, bunny, cat, chicken, cow, deer, dog, duck, goose, horse, kitten, mouse, owl, pig, rabbit, raccoon, sheep, squirrel, turtle, zebra.  
Some things to do are color, draw, jump, kick, paint, play, ride, run, sail, shop, sing, skate, swim, swing, write.
2. Freddie appears in 36 entries: angry, ate, bad, bath, big, bite, catch, clean, different, dry, eat, everybody, fight, hide, hungry, large, no, not, our, pull, prize, push, roll, short, sleep, stay, tail (just his tail), team, their, they, too (first sense), too (second sense), upstairs, wet, what, why.
4. Where do apples come from? **tree**  
What is the shape of an apple? **round**  
What colors can apples have? **green, red, yellow**  
Are these words also in the dictionary? **Yes.**

## Answers for

### The American Heritage® First Dictionary

1. afternoon, highchair, scoreboard, bathroom, baseball
2. fun, bee, do, drew
3. present, happy, couch
4. cup, dish, fork, knife, pitcher, scissors, spoon (on pages 74, 83, 116, 173, 245, 281, 308)

5. shout/whisper, early/late, asleep/awake, straight/crooked, exit/entrance, save/spend, lose/find

## Answers for

### The American Heritage® Children's Dictionary

1. a. stare, stairs, staring  
b. peer, peered, pier  
c. blew, blew, blue
2. a. leaves  
b. itchier, itchiest  
c. stirred, stirring
3. A series . . . / Walking the dog . . .  
To link . . . / A new road . . .  
Without motion / The air was . . .  
In a very . . . / I gingerly . . .

## Answers for

### The American Heritage® Student Dictionary

1. a. **Plate** was first written down in about 1250. **Fork** was first written down in about 1000. **Fork** has been in the language longer.  
b. **Weird** was first written down in about 1400 when it meant "controlling fate." **Strange** comes from a Latin word meaning "foreign."
2. a. intelligent, bright, brilliant, quick-witted  
b. tidy, trim, shipshape
3. a. weigh, whey  
b. gnu, knew

4. a. **Tonic** is called **soda** in the northeast United States and around St. Louis, Missouri, and **pop** from the Midwest westward. It is also called a **cold drink** in the Southern United States.

b. imply

c. English **sauce** and **salsa** come from the Latin word **salsa**, which itself comes from a Latin word that meant "salty."

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