Old and New Compound Nouns



lychgate

These compound nouns are no longer used a lot. They refer to things that we no longer use. We may find them in history books.

treadmill

These compound nouns have existed for a long time. They are still used.



moonlight

dungbeetle

TVdinner

spacesuit

These compound nouns are fairly new. Some are very new.

lifeguard



sorting and evaluating compound nouns

Old and New Compound Nouns

This activity was developed by Liz Taylor, primary advisory teacher in Suffolk, and Stuart Scott.

It was first developed in 2002 and last updated 26th June 2023.

The webaddress for this activity is:

http://www.collaborativelearning.org/oldandnewcompoundnouns.pdf

Teacher notes:

This is both a history and literacy activity.

The words will need to be cut out and printed on card. We have put the cards into ordered sets so that you could also play a bingo game with pictures of the objects. The blank set is for the words you find to add to the activity.

The first task can be for students to sort the words into words they know and words they don't. At this point groups can compare notes before they look up the remaining 'unknown to all' words in an appropriate dictionary.

The words can be then be sorted on the Sorting Board provided. We have included a blank sheet for students or teachers to add more words.

Lastly students can invent or discover some new compounds and their definitions. These new words could be passed to other groups for sorting.

We are thinking up other ways of working with compound nouns and pairs of words that like to be together but haven't hooked up yet. We welcome your ideas.

Old and New Compound Nouns Sorting Game

Instructions

Work in groups to sort the compound nouns cards.

First sort the cards into two piles: words you know the meaning of, and words that you need to look up in the dictionary.

Then try to sort the cards on the Sorting Board.

Then think up or find some more compound nouns and write them on the blank cards. You might want to ask another group to sort your new compound nouns.

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treadmill	lychgate	rushlight	
fireback	hourglass	chamberpot	firedog
knighterrant	collarstud	clotheshorse	fourposter
churchyard	bedbug	footpath	railway
molehill	frogspawn	moonlight	steppingstones
sideboard	dungbeetle	postbox	tramline

Old and New Compound Nouns

TVdinner	bunkbed	carpark	spacesuit
i lifeguard 	gameboy	hotdog	compactdisc
twintub	fastfood	lightswitch	sciencepark

These blank cards are for adding your own words

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Old and New Compound Nouns Pairs Matching

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bedbug	treadmill	dungbeetle	firedogs
hourglass	rushlight	spacesuit	tramlines
l lifeguard 	lychgate	bunkbed	chamberpot