

BBC Teach: English Grammar

Apostrophes



About this video



BBC TEACH: ENGLISH GRAMMAR

Apostrophes

Learn what an apostrophe is, how to spot one, and how to use it.

Key question:

What is an apostrophe?

Key vocabulary:

apostrophe

contraction

possession

luck

fall

adventure

Key video definition:

Apostrophes have two uses: showing possession or showing when letters or words are deliberately left out.

Before watching

Make Predictions: Think. Pair. Share.

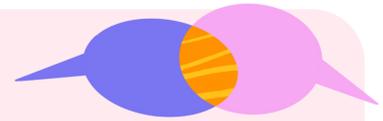
- Show students the image from the resources, taken from the video.
- In pairs, have students discuss what they think might have happened.
- Then, instigate a discussion by sharing ideas as a class.



Before watching

Revising Previous Grammar: Possessives

Activity: Which is your favorite?



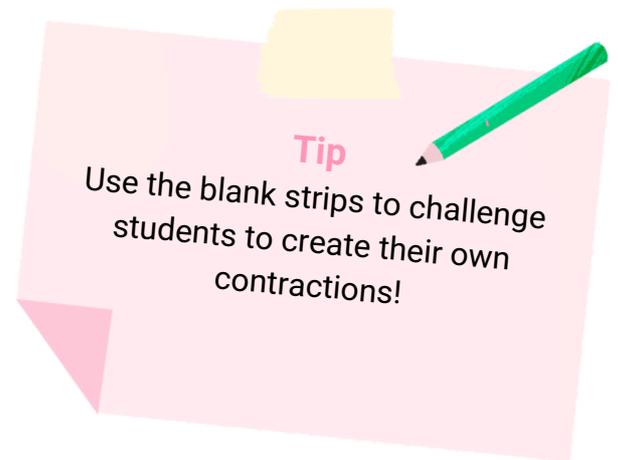
- Write the following list on the board:
food, tv, show, animal, game, subject, dessert, colour, holiday, drink
- Have the students write five true answers about their favourite things and five false answers about their favourite things.
- For example: 'My favourite food is ice cream' - true. 'My favourite food is oysters' - false.
- Place students in pairs. Tell the students they will be guessing if their partner's answer is true or false and that they will write sentences about the answers. Students will ask and answer questions using the possessives 'your' and 'my'
For example:
Student 1: What's your favorite food?
Student 2: My favorite food is oysters.
Student 1: I think that is false.
Student 2: You are right!
- Students keep track of how many right and wrong answers they had by tallies. The student with the most tallies wins.

After watching

Below are two activities to extend the learning from the video and to check for understanding.

Grammar Game: Accordion Contractions

- Distribute the template provided to each student.
- Students cut strips from the pieces of paper to practice making contractions.
- Each time the student folds a contraction they write a sentence using the contraction.

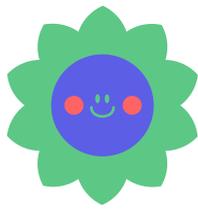


Grammar in Context: Using prefixes and suffixes to create new words

This is a very quick and easy activity to help your students get used to using possessive apostrophes.

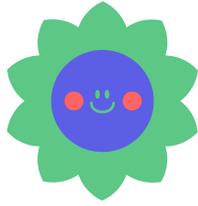
- Make two columns on the board. In the first column, write all of the students' names. Use the word list provided for the second column.
- As a class, or independently, have students choose one name and one word from the word list to make sentences using possessive sentences. *For example, That is Amy's house.*
- If students work independently, they can share their sentences with the class.

He is



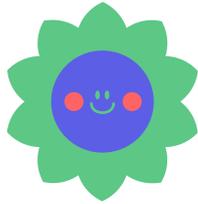
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I am



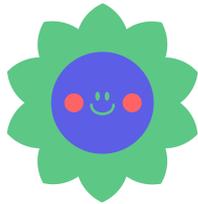
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You are



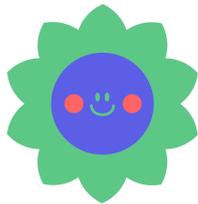
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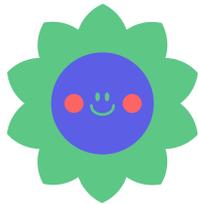
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We are



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It is



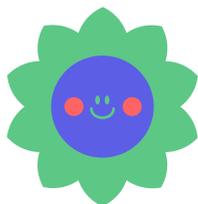
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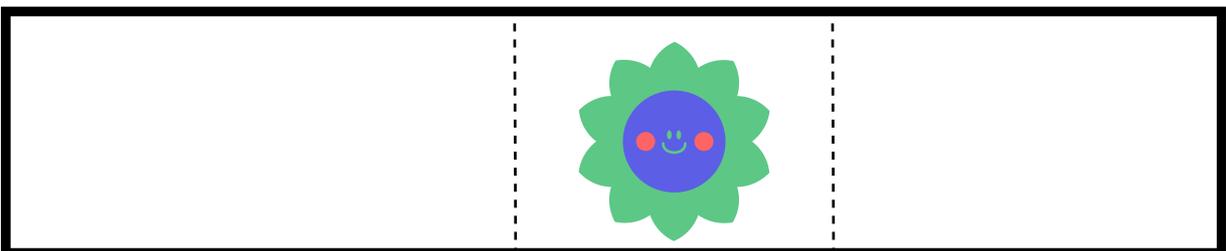
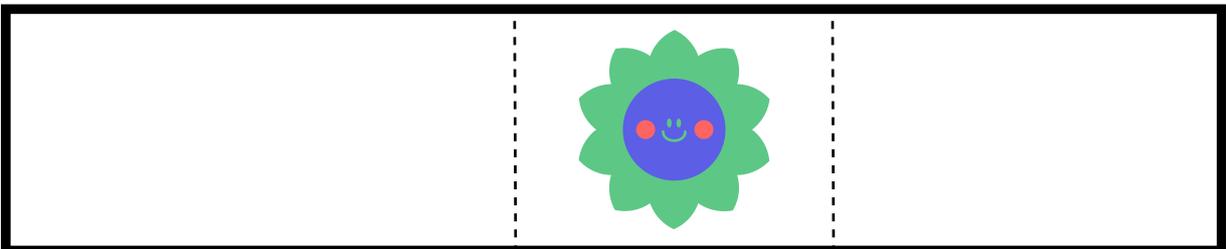
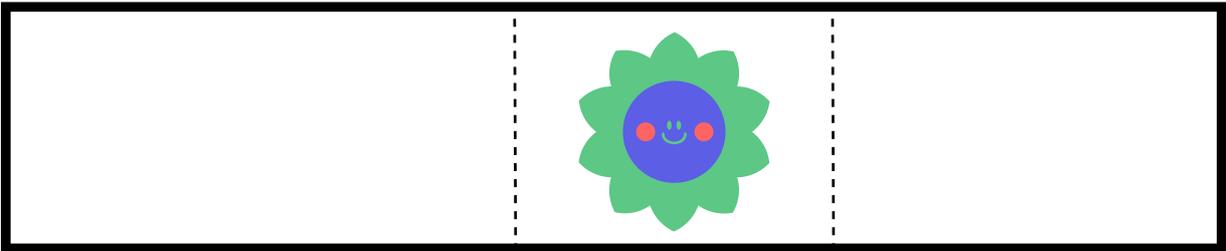
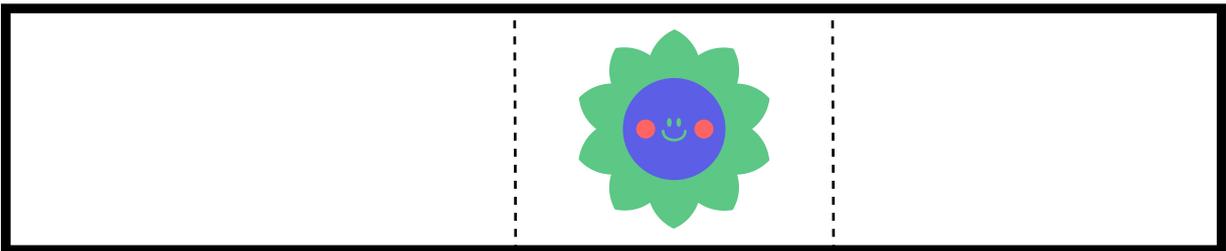
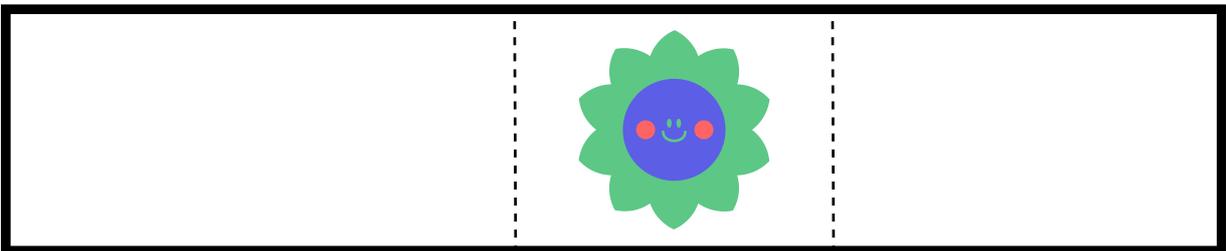
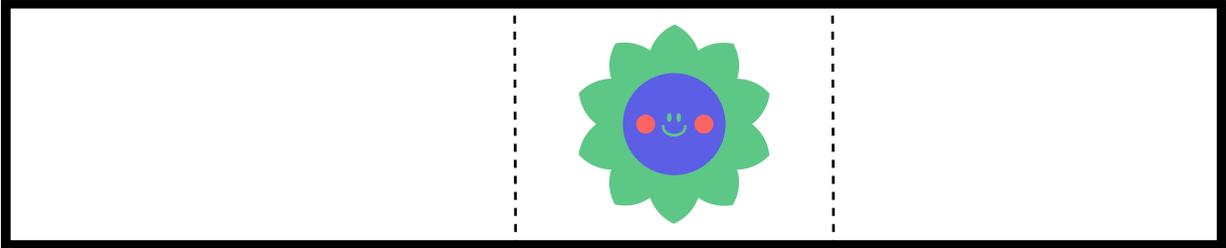
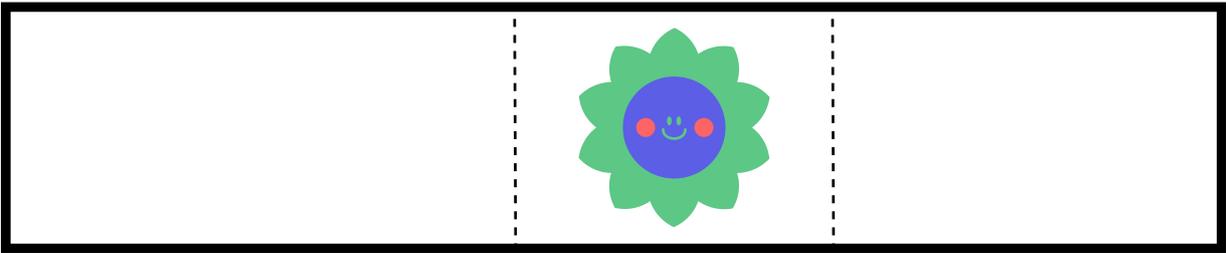


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They are



're



WORD LIST

Cat

Skates

Dog

Hair

Apple

Eyes

Teacher

Feet

Mom

Shoes

Dad

Picture

House

Grandmom

Computer

Granddad

Car

School

Toy

Park

Clothes

Lake

Store

Pool

Ball

Boat