



The Mini Page

Next Week:
Algae

Issue 47, 2022

Founded by Betty Debnam

Tongue Twisters



Mini Fact:

Tongue twisters aren't only fun; they also help improve reading skills.

Have you ever heard someone say, "She sells seashells by the seashore"? If so, you might have then decided to say it yourself.

This is known as a **tongue twister**, a phrase which can be difficult to say. Tongue twisters serve many purposes, including strengthening reading skills, clarifying word pronunciation and helping stretch the muscles we use to speak.

Tongue twisters can also be fun and educational, and The Mini Page learns more about them this week.

Sounds

A tongue twister is defined by a series of sounds or words that are often difficult to pronounce when recited, or said, together quickly. They use something called **alliteration**, which is the repetition of the same sound. An example is: "Cooks cook cupcakes quickly." Once you say this one out loud, you'll probably notice the "k" sound being repeated. That's alliteration.

Benefits

Scientists have found that tongue twisters kick-start the brain.

Practicing tongue twisters can be a fun thing to do with friends, and saying them

also improves our vocabularies. While tongue twisters can be a challenge, when recited correctly, they help people focus on sounds and the pronunciation of words and phrases.

Tongue twisters help with reading skills and have also been shown to assist people with speech difficulties.

By practicing saying these phrases over and over, we're strengthening the muscles in our tongues and mouths.

History

"She sells seashells by the seashore" might be a tongue twister, but it's also based on a real woman. In England during the 1800s, a woman named Mary Anning collected and sold seashells.

As a girl, Mary collected, labeled and recorded details about seashells. She later went on to discover many fossils, including dinosaur remains.

The history of tongue twisters goes back a few hundred years, as teachers would use them to teach their **pupils**, or students, how to pronounce phrases. The first book about them is called "Peter Piper's Practical Principles of Plain and Perfect Pronunciation" by John Harris.



The Mini Page © 2022 Andrews McMeel Syndication

Your turn

Now that we've learned about tongue twisters, it's your turn to give some a try. Repeat them three times fast for an extra challenge.

No need to light a night light on a light night like tonight.

Silly Sally swiftly shooed seven silly sheep.

Betty bought a bit of butter, but the butter Betty bought was bitter.

Six sick chicks nick six slick bricks with picks and sticks.

Fresh fried fish, fish fresh fried, fried fish fresh, fish fried fresh.

Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.

A peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked.

If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers,

Where's the peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked?

Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear. Fuzzy Wuzzy had no hair. Fuzzy Wuzzy wasn't fuzzy, was he?

Resources



On the Web:

- bit.ly/MPtonguetwisters

At the library:

- "Tongue Twister Challenge for Kids: 700 Awesome Twisters Guaranteed to Tongue Tie You in No Time!" by Laughing Lion

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of tongue twisters are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



- ALLITERATION, BRAIN, FRIENDS, MUSCLES, PRONOUNCE, PUPIL, READ, RECITE, REPEAT, SEASHELL, SKILLS, SOUNDS, SPEECH, STRENGTHEN, TEACHER, TONGUE, TWISTER.

D R S S P E E C H N I A R B R
P E B R W P S E A S H E L L L
U P H H N T R E T S I W T S A
P E S L L I K S R E C I T E D
I A A A L L I T E R A T I O N
L T V S T R E N G T H E N A T
G D Q S D N E I R F W Q T Q S
B D A E R A L T E A C H E R V
P R O N O U N C E U G N O T Y
S O U N D S S E L C S U M O K

Cook's Corner

Graham Cracker Topping

You'll need:

- 2 cinnamon graham crackers
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/8 teaspoon cinnamon

- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon vanilla



What to do:

1. Place graham crackers in a small plastic bag and smash into crumbs.
2. Mix crumbs with brown sugar and cinnamon in a small bowl.
3. Combine melted butter with vanilla; pour over crumb mixture.
4. Coat a small baking pan with cooking spray.
5. Pour crumb mixture into pan; bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes.
6. Use as topping for ice cream or frozen yogurt. Makes 2 servings.

* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

Mini Jokes



Tericka: Why couldn't the pony sing a lullaby?
Tim: She was a little horse!

Eco Note



The switch to energy-efficient but blue-tinted LED street lamps across parts of Europe could pose a threat to human and animal health. It's known that exposure to blue light from TV monitors and mobile phones can interfere with sleep as our eyes control the release of the sleep hormone melatonin based on the colors seen. Studies have shown that blue light may also contribute to such conditions as diabetes and obesity. Beyond its effects on humans, blue light can also change the behavior of animals such as bats and moths.

adapted with permission from Earthweek.

For later:

Look in your newspaper for puzzles.

Teachers: Follow and interact with The Mini Page on Facebook!



The Mini Page © 2022 Andrews McMeel Syndication

1. Causing laughter; full of humor (5-letter adjective)

□ □ □ □ □

2. To tell, say or do again (6-letter verb)

□ □ □ □ □ □

3. Waves of energy that we can hear (6-letter plural noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □

4. Power of taking in and storing information (6-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □

1. Classmates laughed at the _____ tongue twister.
2. Julie will _____ again, "Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear, Fuzzy..."
3. Marco practices the _____ of tongue twisters.
4. Bianca has a good _____ for learning and reciting poems.

©2022 Cassius One LLC --- www.myvocabulary.com

ROOTONYM®

by Jan & Carey Orr Cook

S·H·E SELLS SEASHELLS
On The SEASHORE

Study the definition. When you know the missing word, fill in the letter boxes and the sentence blanks.

Answers: Funny, Repeat, Sounds, Memory.

Books from The Mini Page are wonderful resources and make great gifts! See all of our Mini Page products at MiniPageBooks.com, or call 844-426-1256 for more information. Mail payment to: Andrews McMeel Universal, Mini Page Books, 1130 Walnut, Kansas City, MO 64106. Include \$6.00 shipping and handling per order.

