

Similarities and Differences

Guided Practice Ideas Continued

Backward Similarities and Differences

Read the following similarities and differences, and determine the two things being described by each.

Earlier Developing

- 1) These both tell time. One goes on a wall, while the other goes on a wrist.
- 2) These are both tools. One is used for nails, while the other is used for nuts and bolts.
- 3) These are both body parts. One is used to bend your leg, and the other bends your arm.
- 4) These are both wet. One falls from the sky, and the other comes from cows.

Later Developing and Advanced

- 1) These are both healthy and green. One is a fruit, while the other is a vegetable.
- 2) These are both leaders. One leads a state, while the other leads a country.
- 3) These are both vowels. One is the first letter in the alphabet, while the other is 5th.
- 4) These are both materials. One is used for clothes, while the other is used for coins.

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Tic Tac Toe

Create grids with empty squares. Fill in the squares with words at student's level. Student's must provide correct similarities and/or differences before marking off a square with their symbol. Require winner to get at least 4 in a row if time allows.

future past	States Countries	Alaska France	England Canada
lizard bear	comma period	August Easter	rough smooth
oxygen helium	ostrich eagle	Atlantic Pacific	seven six
plastic iron	snow rain	English Spanish	foot mile

Tic Tac Toe Example

Functional Activity Ideas

Activities

Compare and Contrast – Look for exercises requiring comparing and contrasting in textbooks. Talk about how comparing and contrasting is simply another way to describe similarities and differences.

Scavenger Hunt – Write a list of things to find, based on similarities and differences. Find things on the playground, cafeteria, library, etc.

Example Statements

“Compare and contrast metals and plastics. They're both resources. One is used for bendable objects, and the other one is used to make objects that are supposed to hold their shape for long times.”

“Find two objects that are used to connect things together. Find one thing that's round, and another thing that's square.”