

WORD WORK LESSON PLAN AND ACTIVITIES

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

The Great Kapok Tree
By: Lynne Cherry

Word Work

Instructional Focus:
Prepositional phrases that tell where (location).

Background:
Prepositional phrases are groups of words with a **noun or pronoun**, called the object, come **after** a verb and add details about the action. Example: placed **on** the table, dance **at** the party.

Prepositional phrases add important details about where, when, or how something happens.

When focusing on **prepositional phrases**, look for phrases that answer the question **"where?"** These phrases describe a place where the action is taking place.

Common prepositions that often signal location are **over, beside, between, behind, inside, on, under, and with**.

Examples:

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| into the jungle | around the corner |
| beside the young boy | inside of her house |
| next to her | by the door |

Step by Step Lesson Plan

List of words in the book that match the instructional focus

The Great Kapok Tree
By: Lynne Cherry
Grade Level: 4 / Guided Reading Level: R

Word Work

Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading (continued)

Prepositional Phrases That Tell Where in the Text

- Remind students to listen carefully for **where phrases** that help describe where the animals are and where the actions take place in the rain forest.
- Remind students to listen quietly and not interrupt while you read.
- Read *The Great Kapok Tree*.

Examples of words that have Prepositional phrases that tell where (location) found in the text:

- walked **into** the rain forest
- rest of the foot of the great Kapok tree
- lived **in** the Kapok tree
- slithered **down** its trunk to where the man was sleeping
- slid very close **to** the man and hissed in his ear
- buzzed **in** the sleeping man's ear
- is **in** this Kapok tree
- scattered **down from** the canopy of the Kapok tree
- flew **down from** the canopy
- settled **on** the land
- crawled **along** the edge of a leaf
- sleeping **along** a branch in the middle of the tree
- leapt **down** and padded silently **over** to the sleeping man
- swung **down from** branch to branch and whispered to the man
- climbed **down** the Kapok tree
- live **in** a world without trees
- begun climbing **down from** the canopy
- plodding ever so slowly **over** to the sleeping man
- knelt **over** the sleeping man
- murmured **in** his ear
- seemed to dangle **in** the air, suspended **from** the great Kapok tree
- rising **from** the forest floor
- walked **out of** the rain forest

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Word Work

Step 3: Guided Word Work Practice

Interactive Exploration

- Divide students into pairs.
- Provide each pair with a monkey and jaguar, a Preposition Mat, and 2 recording sheets.
- Tell students that "whosever's birthday is soonest will go first."
- Player 1 takes their chosen animal and places it somewhere on the Preposition Mat.
- Then, they must state a simple sentence that tells where their animal is.
- Tell students that they can use suggested prepositions from their recording sheet to help their thinking.
- Once Player 1 has placed their animal and stated a simple sentence that includes a prepositional phrase that tells where their animal is doing something, they must record their sentence on their recording sheet.
- Player 2 then takes their turn and repeats the same process with their animal.
- Students alternate turns until they have each come up with 12 simple sentences that include prepositional phrases that tell where.
- Students may not repeat a prepositional phrase that their classmate has used.
- Students may use the same preposition more than once so long as the prepositional phrase is different.
- Students may use the same verb again and again so long as the prepositional phrase is different.
- Set a timer for the activity (10-15 minutes).
- Visit each group as they work. Discuss the activity at the end with the group.

Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice

Practice Page

- Give each student a copy of **Prepositional Phrases That Tell Where practice page**.
- Read the directions with the class.
- Tell students to complete the practice page on their own.
- Walk around the room to monitor students' work and provide support as needed.

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Interactive Activity

Name: _____
Partner: _____

Suggested Prepositions: **in, on, at, below, beneath, behind, beside, between, inside, outside, to, from, into, onto, over**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

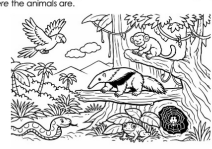
Preposition Mat | ©BookPagez.com

Independent Practice Page

Prepositional Phrases That Tell Where

Name: _____

Directions: Look at the image below. Choose 4 animals to write 4 sentences about their location. Use the prepositional phrases that tell where the animals are. Underline the prepositional phrase in each of your sentences and circle the preposition that helps tell where the animals are.



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Directions: Look at the incomplete sentences below. Add a prepositional phrase that helps tell where the action is happening.

1. The dogs keep running _____
2. The little girl fell _____
3. He lays _____
4. Summertime bugs fly _____
5. She is climbing _____
6. A happy group of students sat _____

Independent Word Work Practice | ©BookPagez.com

Prepositional Phrases Scavenger Hunt (Tells Where)
Extend Engagement Activity

Directions:

- Have students sit at their desks.
- Have students get out the current book they are reading, a classroom book or magazine, a text book, or even an article or reading assignment from another class.
- Tell students that they will read/scan their chosen text until they come upon a sentence that includes a prepositional phrase that tells where.
- Once they think they have found a sentence with a preposition phrase, they can bring it to the teacher to be checked. If they have received a thumbs up from the teacher, they may go write their preposition phrase on the whiteboard for the class to see.
- Once a student has found and written a preposition phrase that tells where on the white board, they may move on to the next activity.
- Have students return to their desks once all students have written their phrases on the board to discuss the variety and types of responses that were shared.

Teacher Directions | ©BookPagez.com

Word Detective: Prepositional Phrases That Tell Where
Extension Activity

Directions:
Be a word detective!
Be on the lookout for words with **prepositional phrases that tell where** while you read. Write the word that you find along with the title of the book where you found the word, the page, and the sentence with the word or phrase.

| Word | Book Title | Page | Sentence |
|------|------------|------|----------|
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Name: _____ Word Work Extension Activity | ©BookPagez.com

Optional Activity to Extend Engagement

Word Detective