Predicate Adjectives
Adjectives That Follow Behind

Reading and Discussion

What is an adjective?

Adjectives are describing words. Adjectives are words that tell us more about a noun. Let’s look at some sentences using the noun cat.

- My sister has a fluffy cat. Fluffy is an adjective that describes cat.
- Aunt Joan has a brown cat. Brown is an adjective that describes cat.

Notice how the adjectives change the way we picture the cat.

Most of the time, an adjective comes right before the noun, but sometimes, you will find an adjective after the noun. An easy way to find these adjectives is to ask yourself a question about them.

Look at the sentences above. Ask yourself what is brown? What is fluffy? It is the cats of course. Fluffy and brown describe the cats. We could say the cat is fluffy, or the cat is brown.

Adjectives that come after the verb - the action word - are called predicate adjectives. Read the sentence with a predicate adjective below.

- My sister’s cat is fluffy.

What is fluffy? It is the cat. Fluffy describes the cat.
Activities

Read the sentences below. Underline the adjectives in each sentence. Do they come before or after the noun?

1. Mr. Johnson’s dog is scary.
2. I saw a brown, spotted cow at the county fair.
3. Anne has a cat with a long tail.
4. My dog is old.
5. The yellow parrot can speak fourteen words.
6. My brown hamster at school is playful.
7. I love wiggly animals the best.
Answer Key

1. Mr. Johnson’s dog is **scary**.

2. I saw a **brown, spotted** cow at the **county** fair.

3. Anne has a cat with a **long** tail.

4. My dog is **old**.

5. The **yellow** parrot can speak **fourteen** words.

6. My **brown** hamster at school is **playful**.

7. I love **wiggly** animals the best.