

All Creatures



I just can't seem to help it,
I love creatures – great and small,
But it's ones that others do not like
I love the best of all.
I like creepy-crawly beetles
And shiny black-backed bugs,
Gnats and bats and spiders,
And slimy fat black slugs.
I like chirpy little crickets
And buzzing bumblebees,
Lice and mice and ladybirds,
And tiny jumping fleas.
I like wasps and ants and locusts,
Centipedes and snails,
Moles and voles and earwigs
And rats with long pink tails.
I like giant moths with dusty wings
And maggots fat and white,
Worms and germs and weevils,
And fireflies in the night.
No, I just can't seem to help it,
To me not one's a pest,
It's ones that others do not like,
I seem to love the best.
So it makes it rather difficult,
It's enough to make me cry,
Because my job's in pest control,
And I just couldn't hurt a fly.

By Gervase Phinn

Noun Phrases – Revision Card

Nouns and Determiners

A **noun** names a person, place, idea, thing or feeling.

a slug
the beetles
an ant
a job

In front of a **noun**, we often have

a an the ← determiners

Adjectives

An **adjective** is a describing word.

It tells you more about a **noun**.



a black slug
the creepy beetles
a tiny ant
a difficult job

The job is difficult.

Adjectives sometimes come next to 'their' **nouns**...
but sometimes they do not.

Noun Phrases

A **noun phrase** adds extra detail to the **noun**.



noun phrase

a black slug
the creepy beetles
a tiny ant
a difficult job
a completely black slug
the very creepy beetles

Adverbs can also be
part of a noun
phrase.

It can be made by adding an **adjective** or two.

The **noun phrase** includes the **noun**, **adjectives** and **determiner**.

Spotting a Noun Phrase

A **noun phrase** can be replaced by a **pronoun**.

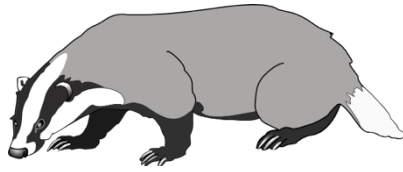
A black slug chewed the leaves.
The creepy beetles scuttled by.
A tiny ant twitched its antennae.
The poem is about a difficult job.

It chewed the leaves.
They scuttled by.
He twitched its antennae.
The poem is about **it**.



We can use this fact
to help us spot
noun phrases.

Poem Planner



1. **Write a list of nouns** – types of animals. Keep going until you have at least ten.
(e.g. *foxes, badgers, hedgehogs, owls*, etc.)
2. Choose one noun as your head noun. **Build a noun phrase around this head noun**, using adjectives, adverbs and other words.
(e.g. *steadily busy, little prickly hedgehogs*)
3. Repeat this until you have **lots of noun phrases** to choose from.
4. **Pick your best six** and reread them, thinking about the impact. **Edit** so that your words are really powerful.
(e.g. *~~very~~ remarkably bold, ~~bright~~ jewel-eyed foxes*)
5. **Write your noun phrases as a list poem**, in a similar style to *All Creatures*.

e.g.

All Animals

*I like remarkably bold, jewel-eyed foxes.
I like steadily busy, prickly hedgehogs.
I like proud, striped shovel-snouted snuffling badgers.
I like terrifying ghost-faced barn owls.*