## LO: I can understand what metaphors and similes are.

#### Poetic devices

This week we have looked at a range of poetic devices which help make poems more interesting, fun and enjoyable to read.

We learnt about **rhythm and rhyme**. Then we moved on to **alliteration and onomatopoeia**.

Today we are learning about two more; **metaphors and similes**.

Often in our writing we want to compare something to another thing to make our writing richer, or to help the reader to understand the picture we have in our head.

Metaphors and similes can help us with this.

Metaphors are used to describe something as another thing. Such as:

- The journey to Pickering was a nightmare.
- A blanket of snow fell on Slingsby.



### The Night is a Big Black Cat

The Night is a big black cat The moon is her topaz eye, The stars are the mice she hunts at night, In the field of the sultry sky.

By G. Orr Clark



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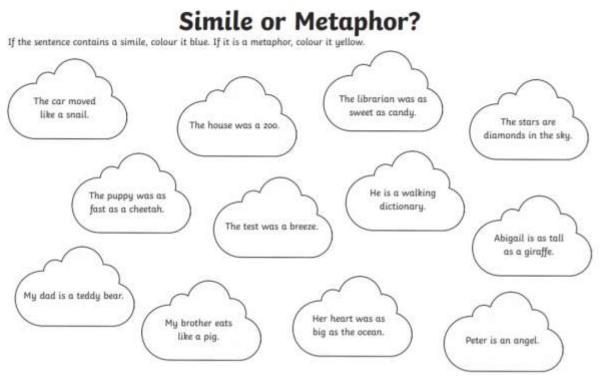
**Similes** are used to say that something is like (similar) another thing, using 'as' or 'like'.

- The journey to Pickering was like a nightmare
- The snow covered Slingsby like a blanket
- As pretty as a picture

Flint
An emerald is as green as grass, A ruby red as blood;
A sapphire shines as blue as heaven;
A flint lies in the mud.
A diamond is a brilliant stone,
To catch the world's desire;
An opal holds a fiery spark;
But a flint holds fire.

Christina Rossetti

# O Activity



© Activity: see how many similes you can come up with to describe yourself:

I am as...

- 1. Quick as
- 2. Slow as
- 3. Small as
- 4. Large as
- 5. Sad as
- 6. Happy as
- 7. Nice as
- 8. Mean as
- 9. Cold as
- 10.Hot as
- 11.Weak as
- 12.Strong as
- 13.Loud as
- 14.Quiet as

<sup>(2)</sup> Challenge yourself!

Metaphor: write a sentence about lockdown that includes a metaphor.

Simile: write a sentence about winter that includes a simile.

This is a very descriptive poem. I hope you enjoy reading it. Can you find the metaphor?

The Sea The sea is a hungry dog. Giant and grey. He rolls on the beach all day. With his clashing teeth and shaggy jaws Hour upon hour he gnaws The rumbling, tumbling stones, And 'Bones, bones, bones!' The giant sea-dog moans, Licking his greasy paws. And when the night wind roads And the moon rocks in the stormy cloud, He bounds to his feet and snuffs and sniffs, Shaking his wet slides over the cliffs, And howls and hallos long and loud. But on quiet days in May or June, When even the grasses on the dune Play no more their reedy tune, With his head between his paws He lies on the sandy shores So quiet, so quiet he scarcely snores. By James Reeves

This poem also uses metaphor:

### My big cardboard box by John Foster.

My big cardboard box is a tall sailing ship That skims across the foam. I load it with treasure from pirate wrecks Before I head for home. My big cardboard box is a silver rocket That takes me to the stars. I race through space to set up a base And explore the surface of Mars.

My big cardboard box is a huge aeroplane. I fly to golden sands, Where lollipop trees and ice-cream flowers Grow in a magic land.

There's nothing like a big cardboard box To take you far away, When you're stuck inside with nothing to do On a wet and windy day.

This is poem which uses similes and metaphors: can you spot the difference?

Cat He's a vicious tiger His claws are like knives

His eyes are like security cameras looking for trouble

He's black trouble He's a sports car zooming across the street

He's a dirty missile rocketing to his owner

He's a violin to my ears

He's my cat!