

Figurative Language

4th Grade

Six devices writers use when the plain words are not enough.

Figurative language means something other than the literal words.

Device	What it does	Example
Simile	compares using like or as	as quiet as snow
Metaphor	says one thing IS another	the sky was a bruise
Personification	gives human traits to things	the wind whispered
Hyperbole	wild exaggeration	I've told you a million times
Idiom	a fixed phrase with a hidden meaning	it's raining cats and dogs
Onomatopoeia	a word that sounds like its noise	buzz, crash, splash

Naming it is half the mark. Saying what it does to the reader is the other half.