

Lesson Plan

Antonyms in Action

Book: *Carson Wentz: Football Star*

Series: Biggest Names in Sports

Level: Navigator

Objective

To help students practice identifying antonyms and synonyms.

Supplies

- *Carson Wentz: Football Star*
- Antonyms in Action Word List (attached)
- Masking tape

Before the Activity

Print the Antonyms in Action Word List and cut it apart so each word is on a separate slip of paper. Read the *Carson Wentz* book with students, or assign it to students to read on their own.

Activity

Page 20 describes Carson Wentz's first game as the starting quarterback for the Eagles. It says, "Wentz led the Eagles to a 29–10 victory. He often looked like a **veteran** rather than a **rookie**."

Use the book's glossary to look up the words *veteran* and *rookie*.

- **veteran:** A person who has been doing his or her job for a long time and has a lot of experience.
- **rookie:** A professional athlete in his or her first year.

These two words are examples of antonyms, or words that have opposite meanings. Words that have similar meanings are called synonyms. For example, the word *beginner* would be a synonym for *rookie* because both words describe a person who does not have much experience.

Play the following game to help students practice identifying synonyms and antonyms. Tape a word from the Antonyms in Action Word List to the back of each student's shirt. Students should try to figure out what word is taped to their back. However, they cannot look at the word. Instead, they must go around the room and ask other students for clues. Each student they ask should tell them a synonym for the word taped to their back.

Students should keep going around and asking for synonyms until they know what word is taped to their back. Explain that each word is part of a pair. Another student in the class has the word's antonym taped to his or her back. Each student should try to find the student who has this antonym. When two students whose words are antonyms find each other, they should link arms.

Evaluation

Use the attached answer key to check students' answers. Could they find their pairs?

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' language standards, grade 4 (L 4.5).

Antonyms in Action Word List

powerful

weak

offense

defense

leading

following

worse

better

victory

defeat

older

younger

natural

artificial

less

more

first

final

future

past

highest

lowest

success

failure

started

finished

dangerous

safe

confident

uncertain

Antonyms in Action Answer Key

- powerful / weak
- offense / defense
- leading / following
- worse / better
- victory / defeat
- older / younger
- natural / artificial
- less / more
- first / final
- future / past
- highest / lowest
- success / failure
- started / finished
- dangerous / safe
- confident / uncertain