

# Figurative Language and Writing Terms

**Alliteration:** Repeating the same initial consonant sound in a sentence.

*Bobby blew bubbles on the bumpy boat.*

**Idiom:** An expression that means something different than what the words actually say.

*It had been raining cats and dogs all day.*

**Metaphor:** Comparing two unlike things as if they had something in common.

*My grandfather's hair is bone white.*

**Onomatopoeia:** A word that resembles the sound that it represents.

*The bee buzzed as it went from flower to flower.*

**Oxymoron:** A short phrase combining two terms that are normally contradictory.

*Sarah ate some jumbo shrimp for dinner.*

**Palindrome:** A word or phrase that reads the same forwards and backwards.

*"Bob, would you clean up your room?" asked mom.*

**Personification:** Giving human qualities, feelings, action, or characteristics to inanimate (non-living) objects.

*The leaves danced in the wind.*

**Pun:** The humorous use of a word to suggest a different meaning.

*Math teachers have lots of problems.*

**Simile:** Comparing two unlike things as if they had something in common. Similes **ALWAYS** have the words "like" or "as" in the sentence. If the sentence does not have the words "like" or "as", then it is a metaphor.

*The new trumpet shined **liked** the sun.*

*The puppy's eyes are **as blue as** the sky.*