

Grade 4 English Language Arts  
Week of December 7– December 11

**Lesson 4: Revising**

**ARMS**



Watch this video to get a better understanding what revising is all about:

<https://youtu.be/RBKqgOvmJ8w>

**Revising means to make changes to make your writing sounds better.** There are 4 steps to revising that you will use to create a stronger story.

You can remember these 4 steps with its acronym, A.R.M.S.

Let's take a look  
at what each  
letter stands for.

Revising

A . R . M . S .

**A**dd – sentences and words

**R**emove – words or sentences you don't  
need

**M**ove – change a word or placement of a  
sentence

**S**ubstitute – trade words or  
sentences for new ones

We are going to go through each step in  
revising now. Have your creative writing out  
and ready to revise!

Add

## Add

– sentences and words

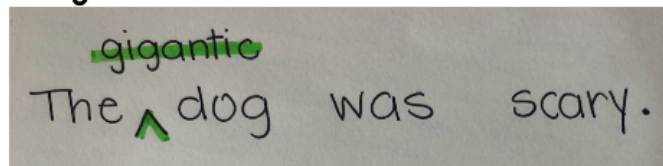
As you read and reread your story, look for places you can add **details**, **description**, and **alive words**!

Ask yourself these questions when adding.

1. Are there lots of sentences that seem boring?
2. Do you think adding some details would make some sentences more interesting?
3. Would the reader be able to paint a picture about your story?

Remember, the reader won't just know all the details. You need to add them in!

When adding to your story, use “^” and write the word you wish to add above the line.



The <sup>gigantic</sup> dog was scary.

## Remove

### Remove

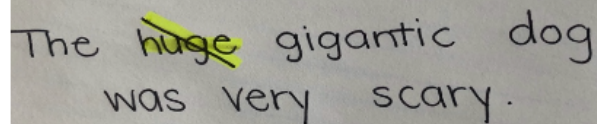
– words or sentences you don't need

If you are reading parts of your story again and again and it seems too wordy, find some words to take out.

Sometimes, changing a sentence or a word to something simpler, or removing that part will help with the flow of your story!

More words do not mean a better story!

Simply cross out the word you wish to remove.



The ~~huge~~ gigantic dog  
was very scary.

## Move

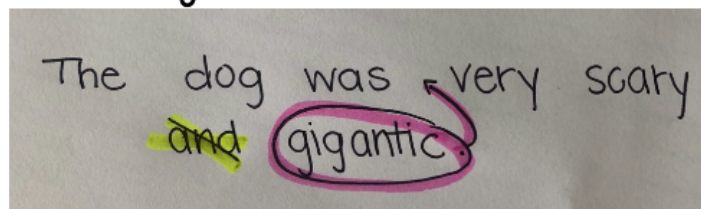
# Move

- **change a word or placement of a sentence**

Sometimes when you read your story you might find that some words or sentences would sound better in a different.

If you find words and sentences that you would like to move, circle the entire word/sentence, and neatly draw an arrow to where you wish to move it.

**Remember when you move words and sentences, some other words may need to be removed or added.**



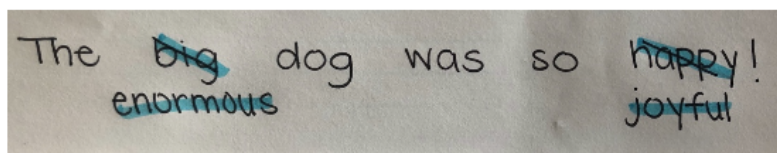
## Substitute

# Substitute

- Trade sentences and words for new ones
- Use the chart below for some juicier words!

Single Scoop Words	→	Triple Scoop Words
Smart	→	Brilliant, intelligent
Said	→	Responded, replied, stated
Pretty	→	Beautiful, stunning
Funny	→	Hilarious, silly, amusing
Ran	→	Sprinted, dashed
Happy	→	Joyful, glad
Little	→	Short, mini, petite
Saw	→	Observed, looked
Good	→	Great, excellent
Nice	→	Friendly, lovely
Big	→	Huge, enormous, gigantic
Throw	→	Toss, hurl

Simply cross out the word you wish to remove and write the substitute for it under the word.



The ~~big~~ dog was so ~~happy!~~  
enormous joyful

Now it's your turn to revise!

**You will now turn to your creative writing story, and you will apply these 4 new revising skills!**

Use the "Revising Tools" page to guide you during this activity.

You may choose to read your story and use all 4 tools, or you may choose to do 1 tool at a time. Choose what works best for you.

**Using the revising tools (A.R.M.S.), revise your story. Use a coloured pencil if that will help you. You can use the extra line between your writing to do your revisions. Show what you are adding, removing, moving, and changing.**