

Rudolph the Red Nosed Mad Libs!

Your third grader may know how to use a dictionary, but what about a thesaurus? Here's a fun holiday activity that will have you and your child singing, laughing, and using a great writing tool to build important skills now and for many years to come.

What You Need:

- a thesaurus
- a pencil
- a piece of paper, with the following ten words listed on it: let, shiny, games, saw, poor, glows, laugh, join, names, games.
- the lyrics to "Rudolph, The Red-Nosed Reindeer", (included below for your reference!)

Rudolph, the Crimson-Nosed
Reindeer,
Owned a very sparkling nose.
And in case you ever beheld it
You would even assume it
radiates!
All of the additional reindeer
Used to giggle and call him
monikers.
They never allowed pitiful
Rudolph
Participate in any reindeer
merriment!

Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer had a very shiny nose. And if you ever saw it you would even think it glows! All of the other reindeer used to laugh and call him names. They never let poor Rudolph join in any reindeer games!

What You Do:

1. Give your child the list of words, a pencil, and the thesaurus.
2. Explain that a thesaurus is used to find other choices for words. When you look up a word in the thesaurus, you see a list of words with similar meanings.
3. Help your child look up the first word on the list: let. Have him write one of the synonyms for "let" on his list (beside the word let).
4. Repeat for the rest of the words on the list.
5. Now show him the words to Rudolph, and have him read it aloud.
6. Have him use his pencil to replace the underlined words from Rudolph with the words from his list.
7. Have him read or sing the new version aloud. It should sound pretty silly, but still make sense!
Repeat with other favorite songs and before you know it you'll have a thesaurasaurus on your hands!