



## Hairy, Scary, Ordinary: What Is an Adjective? (Words Are CATEgorical ®)

By Brian P. Cleary

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Simple, rhyming text and colorful cartoon cats help children expand their vocabularies and gain an appreciation for the rhythm of language in this lighthearted book of rhyming verse. Adjectives like frilly, silly, polka-dotted, fizzy, and spunky are printed in color, and all the words will tickle you pink!

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### **Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

#### From School Library Journal

Grade 2-4-Descriptive words of many kinds are presented in bouncy, rhyming text: "They're colorful, like mauve and puce,/They help explain, like lean and loose,/Baggy, saggy, stretchy, strong,/Much too short or way too long." The text bounces, too, with the words printed in wavy lines and unevenly sized letters. The adjectives are colorfully highlighted and readers will see their function demonstrated in a wide variety of contexts. Little round cats and quirky humans, both with fat noses and wide eyes, humorously illustrate the meanings. The book will probably be used most often to enliven grammar lessons, and is a companion to *A Mink, a Fink, a Skating Rink: What Is a Noun?* (Carolrhoda, 1999). Unfortunately, the illustrations are too small for group use. While Ruth Heller's *Many Luscious Lollipops* (Grosset & Dunlap, 1989) is still hard to beat on the subject, *Hairy, Scary, Ordinary* is a lighthearted, multifaceted illustration of the importance of adjectives in our language.

*Adele Greenlee, Bethel College, St. Paul, MN*

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#### From Kirkus Reviews

The team that brought us *A Mink, a Fink, a Skating Rink: What Is a Noun?* (1999) turns its attention with equal felicity to defining adjectives in this antic, illustrated poem. Adjectives, readers discover, are words that ``modify nouns in ways that help tell us / If someone's sincere, delighted, or jealous, / If jackets are herringbone, pinstriped, or plaid, / if babies are crabby, excited, or glad.'' Prosmitsky's amusing cartoons of silly humans and goofy cats illustrate every adjective that lurks in the text, thus reinforcing each meaning visually. Altogether, this entertaining lecture will go far to enliven and enlighten language classes as well as add to the readers vocabulary. Neat, clever, commendable, and groovy. (Picture book. 7-9) -- *Copyright ©2000, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

#### Review

"The adjectives in the text are printed in energetic, creative, and colorful fonts." -- *The Horn Book Guide*

"The sound of the words, the exaggeration, and the nonsense scenarios will appeal to kids. . ." -- *Booklist*

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

#### Stephen Conway:

The book *Hairy, Scary, Ordinary: What Is an Adjective? (Words Are Categorical ®)* give you a sense of feeling enjoy for your spare time. You need to use to make your capable considerably more increase. Book can to get your best friend when you getting pressure or having big problem together with your subject. If you can make looking at a book *Hairy, Scary, Ordinary: What Is an Adjective? (Words Are Categorical ®)* to get your habit, you can get much more advantages, like add your own personal capable, increase your knowledge about a few or all subjects. You can know everything if you like start and read a reserve *Hairy, Scary, Ordinary: What Is an Adjective? (Words Are Categorical ®)*. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science publication or encyclopedia or others. So , how do you think about this guide?

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**Brandon Francis:**

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