

# The Meaning of Words

A dictionary and a thesaurus are two very useful word books.  
A dictionary is an alphabetical list of words and their meanings.  
A thesaurus is a book in which words with similar meanings (synonyms) are grouped together.

## Dictionary

**Nn**

### nail

- 1 A nail is a small piece of metal with a point on one end. It usually has a flat top that you can hit with a hammer. Nails are sometimes used to join two pieces of wood together.
- 2 Your nails are the thin hard areas that cover the end of each of your fingers and toes.

**name** A name is what somebody or something is called.

**narrow** (narrower, narrowest) Something that is narrow is a very short distance from one side to the other.

**nasty** (nastier, nastiest)

- 1 Someone who is nasty is very unkind.
- 2 Something that is nasty is very unpleasant.

**native**

- 1 A native of a particular country is someone who was born there.
- 2 Your native country is the country where you were born.

**natural** is used to describe things that are not made by people. Trees, rocks and rivers are natural things.

**nature** is everything in the world that is not caused by human beings.

**naughty** (naughtier, naughtiest) A child who is naughty behaves badly.

**navigate** Someone who navigates a ship or aircraft works out which way to go.

**navy**

- 1 A navy is one of the forces that a country uses for fighting. Navies use ships to fight at sea.
- 2 Navy blue is a very dark blue colour.

**near** (nearer, nearest)

- 1 If you are near to something, you are only a short distance from it.
- 2 If something happens near to a particular point in time, it happens close to it: *It happens somewhere near the beginning of the story.*

from Collins Primary Dictionary

## Thesaurus

gentle  
placid  
easygoing  
mild

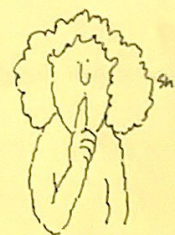
This *gentle* horse is the best one for you to ride.

silent  
quiet as a mouse

Be *silent* or you'll frighten the squirrel away.

restful

Mum and Dad say they need a *restful* weekend at home after working hard all week.



# quiet

still  
peaceful  
calm  
hushed  
tranquil

The forest is *still* at night, far away from the noisy city.

quiet sounds

hiss	swish
hum	tick
murmur	tinkle
rustle	whisper
sigh	

from Collins Junior  
Thesaurus