A good simile or metaphor is like alchemy, in that it creates something new out of ordinary things. Two ordinary, much different images are fused together to create a compelling new image.

Figurative language exaggerates and alters literal words to provide extra layers of meaning to text.

Instructions: Write into the top circle a metaphor or simile found in a story. Next, tease out the details of the metaphor into two separate, literal sets of information. Note the similarities and differences and then reconstruct the image in the language fusion circle. Use the example sheet as a guide.

The goal of this work sheet is for you to understand how metaphors are constructed, pull them apart and then put them back together again.

If you have knowledge of how figurative language works, you can better create your own new metaphors and similes.

Created by David Newman speech-language pathologist