

# Learning together

## Recognizing Links Between Elements in the Text

ACTIVITY #13

SEQUENCE: READING STRATEGIES  
2<sup>ND</sup> CYCLE — PRIMARY

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### Purpose of the activity

Our goal is to pay particular attention to discourse markers that help understand the links between elements in a sentence and the text.



### Relevance of the activity

Discourse markers, commonly referred to as linking words, are often taught more explicitly at the end of primary school or even at the beginning of secondary school. And yet, we use these words orally to make connections between our ideas. Understanding them in the context of reading allows your child to better understand links that can be drawn between the elements of a sentence and the text.



### Supplies

To do this activity, you can use:

- the text in the appendix
- the school texts that your child must read
- a book at their reading level



## LET'S GO!

### Explain the activity:



Today we are going to focus on what we call linking words.

### Explain why:



This might be the first time you've heard about discourse markers. And yet, you encounter them when reading and you use them often when speaking...

**For example: because, so, but, except, since, plus, although, etc.**

Linking words are words or expressions that link ideas, sentences or paragraphs to express the relationship between them.

### Explain when:



While reading and after reading, you should pay attention to linking words.

**Try it together:**



To help you better understand what I'm talking about, I'm going to show you some examples of linking words and what they mean.

Once we have explored them, we will spot a few in the text "A Voyage Through Forests" so you can see them in context.

Type of relationship, link	Examples of discourse markers	
<b>Addition</b>	and, in addition, as well as <b>Example:</b> I bike <u>and</u> snowboard.	
<b>Cause</b>	because, since, as <b>Example:</b> I practise several sports <u>because</u> it allows me to develop different abilities.	
<b>Consequence</b>	so, then, that is why <b>Example:</b> I live near ski hills, <u>so</u> I have the chance to go there often.	
<b>Opposition</b>	but, on the other hand, while <b>Example:</b> Sports come easy to me, <u>but</u> much less than the arts!	
<b>Explanation</b>	that is why, for example, in fact <b>Example:</b> Sports are an important part of my life, which is <u>why</u> we do a lot together as a family.	

<b>Comparison</b>	like, less than, also <b>Example:</b> Sports come easy to me, but <u>much less</u> than the arts!
<b>Time</b>	after, when, during <b>Example:</b> <u>When</u> I'm playing sports, I also get to be outside.
<b>Introduction</b>	In the beginning, first, first of all <b>Example:</b> <u>In the beginning</u> , snowboarding was difficult.
<b>Continuation</b>	then, after, next <b>Example:</b> <u>After</u> trying snowboarding a few times, I was able to do turns.
<b>End</b>	finally, lastly, in conclusion <b>Example:</b> <u>Finally</u> , I'm going snowboarding today!

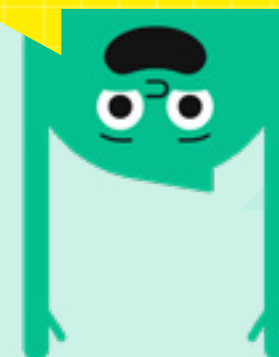
### Let's look at our text again.

As you can see, there are words that are underlined. These are discourse markers. Let's read the paragraph on boreal forests and think about the type of relationship that exists between the underlined words.

As you can see, these little words are super important to help us understand the links between elements of a sentence and between sentences. You must therefore pay special attention to them.

### Quick tips!

You will probably realize that you use many linking words to express yourself when speaking and writing.



## A Voyage Through Forests

Dear Adventurers, come and discover our beautiful forests!  
Forests are like large families of trees, each with its own mystery.  
Slip on your boots and get ready for an incredible adventure!

### Rainforests

Welcome to the rainforest! Imagine you are walking through a **jungle** where the trees are so high that they block the sun's rays. Here, there is a lot of shiny foliage. Did you know that rainforests are located **near the equator**, where it is always hot and humid? They are home to exotic animals such as monkeys and colourful parrots. Unfortunately, tropical forests and the animals that live in them are not immune to deforestation.



### Boreal forests

Now imagine a forest where the trees are covered with sparkling snow. Also called taiga, the boreal forest is found in countries where it is very cold, such as **northern Canada and Russia**. In these forests, we find **conifers** such as firs, spruce and tamaracks. Because of climate change, snow is melting earlier, affecting the growth of trees and shrubs, as well as the way of life of the animals that live there, such as black bears.



**Temperate forests**

We end our voyage in the temperate forests. Here we find **conifers, but also hardwoods** such as maple and birch. This type of forest is found in **Europe and North America**. The colour of the trees' leaves changes with the seasons, putting on a spectacular show, especially in autumn. Throughout the year, you see different species of bird, squirrel and deer. Temperate forests are increasingly affected by forest fires because the weather is warmer and there is less precipitation.



Lastly, forests give us fresh air and are home to a wide variety of animals, both big and small! They're the lungs of the Earth. By taking care of our planet and planting trees, we can help protect these beautiful places for generations to come.



See you soon for another adventure,  
**Jean Bouleau**