

## **Glossary of Terms to Support your child with Grammar and Punctuation**

**Acronym - abbreviations formed from a name or phrase. Sometimes the abbreviation can form a word in itself. For example, BASIC refers to Beginner's All-Purpose Symbolic Instruction Code.**

**Adjective - a word whose main role is to modify a noun or pronoun, giving more detail information about the noun or pronoun. For example, "The big dog ran down the street." The word big is the adjective describing dog.**

**Adverb - any word used to modify any part of language other than the noun. Adverbs usually answers questions such as how? when? or where?**

**Antonym - any word meaning the opposite of another word. For example, soft is the antonym for hard.**

**Apostrophe - a punctuation mark used to mark the omission in one or more letters or assist in possessives in pronouns or nouns.**

**Colon - punctuation mark used when joining two independent clauses without a conjunction.**

**Comma - punctuation mark used to separate a dependent clause from the independent clause.**

**Compound Sentence - two independent clauses joined together to form one sentence.**

**Conjunction - a word that joins two parts of a sentence. For example, words such as and, but, nor, for, or would be used in a sentence to join another idea.**

**Conjunctive Adverb - word or words that connects two clauses. They show cause and effect. Their typical use is to provide transitions from one idea to another.**

**Declarative Sentence - a statement that ends in a period or exclamation point that states an idea. It does not ask a question nor gives a command.**

**Direct Quotation - statement from another individual or source usually used to support facts relating to a given topic.**

**Ellipsis - a series of marks, typically three periods in a row, used to indicate a pause in a speech, thought, or at the end of a sentence.**

**Exclamation - an interjection or act of exclaiming when used as a noun.**

**Exclamation Point - punctuation mark that indicates strong feelings or intended to show astonishment.**

**Fragment - incomplete or unfinished part of a sentence that never finishes the thought or idea of the sentence.**

**Homophone - words that sound alike but have completely different meanings.**

**Hyphen - punctuation mark used to join words and also separate syllables which spaces should not be between the words or the hyphen except when using a suspended hyphen.**

**Indent - to cut or notch. To set in from a margin. Usually this relates to the first sentence in a given paragraph.**

**Linking Verb - word that connects the subject of the verb to other information about the subject and they do not express action.**

**Negative - word that can be used as an adjective, noun, verb or adverb. Usually meaning to deny or indicate denial.**

**Noun - word used to name a person, place, thing or abstract idea.**

**Paragraph - two or more sentences dealing with a particular idea or subject.**

**Period - punctuation mark placed at the end of a sentence statement after giving a complete thought of the subject or idea.**

**Phrase - group of words operating as one in a given sentence to complete an idea.**

**Plural Noun - nouns that express more than one person, place, thing or abstract idea.**

**Possessive Noun - these words show possession. They are nouns used as adjectives to modify a noun or pronoun.**

**Predicate - one of two main parts of a sentence which modifies the subject.**

**Preposition - words used to connect nouns, phrases, and pronouns in a given sentence.**

**Pronoun - word used to replace a noun or pronoun. For example, the name Michael could be converted to "he."**

**Proper Noun - noun that is the name of a specific object, place, or individual.**

**Question Mark - also known as an interrogation point is a punctuation mark that comes at the end of an interrogative sentence that replaces the period mark.**

**Quotation Mark - punctuation marks used in pairs to set off a phrase or a word.**

**Run-On Sentence - sentence where two or more independent clauses are joined together without proper ending punctuation.**

**Semicolon - punctuation mark used to connect two independent clauses into one sentence.**

**Subject - one of two main constituents of a clause which the other constituent is the predicate. Usually the subject is a noun that comes in the beginning of a sentence.**

**Synonym - word having nearly the same meaning as another word or words.**

**Verb - word that usually states action or state of being in a given sentence.**