Said is Dead!

Use said synonyms to make your writing more interesting

Adding speech to your writing is a great way to make it more interesting for the reader. However, when adding reported clauses, it gets a bit boring if we always use the word said. We can use many other words, such as shouted or whispered.

Use a thesaurus (or the Internet) to find different ways to say said. Place them in the box below to make a word bank of said synonyms to use in your writing.

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Challenge: Rewrite each of the sentences below twice but each time change the word said with one of your said synonyms. Discuss with a grown-up how the said synonym changes the way we might say the speech inside the inverted commas.

1. Jane said, "Be careful!"
2. "Where are we going?" said Mary.
3. "Mum," said the boy, "Can I have a biscuit?"
4. "Shh," said the librarian. "You have to be quiet."
5. Sarah said, "I fell and cut my knee."



