

# Hyperbole- Lesson Plans and Resources

## Lesson Plan

**Goal: Students can identify hyperboles and determine when to use it in their writing.**

**Focus: Identifying the use of hyperboles (Hyperbole (hi-pur'be-le) n. An exaggeration or overstatement intended to produce an effect without being taken literally.)**

Hyperbole is a form of speech that could be described as 'extravagant exaggeration'. It is not appropriate when writing essays or reports, but a little hyperbole (pronounced 'hi-per-bo-lee') is an effective way to color the speech of a character in a short story, or use it to make a point effectively in a humorous piece of writing.

### Examples:

I've told you a million times not to exaggerate.

### Activities:

- 1. Students work in pairs to author a short story creating a character or characters that use(s) hyperboles constantly.**
- 2. The teacher will give blanket statements in class that the students will complete with their original hyperbole. Example:**

**That student is so lazy that..... or that class was so boring (or exciting) that.....**

- 3. Review the definition: Hyperbole simply means exaggeration.**

### Some Examples:

**I could sleep for a year.**

**This box weighs a ton.**

**I've told you a million times not to exaggerate.**

**Your mother is so small she does chin-ups on the curb.**

**The Hippo**

**A head or tail - which does he lack?  
I think his forward's coming back!  
He lives on carrots, leeks, and hay;  
He starts to yawn - it takes all day  
Some time I think I'll live that way.**

**Write a ten-line poem using hyperbole, or write ten examples of hyperbole.**

**4. Have students list at least 15 hyperboles not already given in the above examples. Now, choose 1 and create a poem using the hyperbole.**