

# COMMON CORE BACKPACK

## If I Were a Sound...

5<sup>th</sup> Grade - English Language Arts - Reading Literature 5.4

Common Core Standard	Basically this means your child can....
RL.5.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.	Understand similes and metaphors.

### Background Information:

The best authors are remembered for their metaphorical use of words. In other words, they create pictures with words for their readers. For example: The phrase “It’s raining cats and dogs” gives a more colorful picture than saying, “It’s raining outside”.

Whenever you describe something by comparing it with something else, you are using figurative language. Figurative language often uses the five senses: sight, hearing, touch, taste or smell.

A **simile** is where two things are compared because they have something in common. The word AS or LIKE is used to compare the two words. For example: As cold AS a dog's nose.

A **metaphor** also compares two things, but it does so more directly WITHOUT using as or like. For example: The shop was a little gold-mine.

In this activity, your child will use figurative language to complete a self-portrait.

### Activity:

1. Give your child a marker and a piece of paper.
2. Have him complete the following prompts in writing:  
  
If I were a food, you would taste . . .  
If I were an aroma, you would smell . . .  
If I were a sound, you would hear . . .  
If I were a sight, you would see . . .  
If I were a touch, you would feel . . .
3. Have him illustrate his “portrait” and put it on the refrigerator. You might have him write additional portraits of family members.

**What you need (materials):**

- ⑥ Marker
- ⑥ Paper

**Example:**

- If I were a food, you would taste cinnamon and sugar.
- If I were an aroma, you would smell coffee roasting and want some.
- If I were a sound, you would hear music in the distance and laughter.
- If I were a sight, you would see a green ocean on a warm day.
- If I were a touch, you would feel a big hug and a slight push.