



Small words, **BIG** meaning!

A, an and the
help us be clear
when we speak
and write!

They are called **articles**.

a

We use **a** before a singular noun that starts with a **consonant sound**.

Examples:



a dog



a car



a book



a pencil



a cat



a boy



a tree

an

We use **an** before a singular noun that starts with a **vowel sound** (a, e, i, o, u).

Examples:



an apple



an elephant



an ice cream



an orange



an egg



an umbrella



an igloo

the

We use **the** when we talk about a **specific** person, place, thing or when it is **already known**.

Examples:



the sun
(there is only one)



the Earth
(there is only one)



the girl
(we know which girl)



the school
(a specific school)



the ball
(we know which ball)



the window
(we both know which window)



the family
(a specific family)

A small word can make a big difference!