

# FERDINAND

for grades 2-4

Mentor Sentence Lesson  
Interactive Activity  
Reading Activities  
Writing Prompt  
Vocabulary



Ferdinand  
By Munro Leaf



Mentor Sentence Focus Standard L.1 (adjectives)

Reading Lesson Ideas:

R.1 Students find evidence that supports Ferdinand is different from other bulls.

R.2 Have students tell the lesson/moral of the book.

R.3 Students list/describe character traits of Ferdinand, and compare him to what a bull should be for the purpose of fighting.

R.4 Discuss and learn unknown words about bullfighting.

R.7 Students explain how the text's illustrations contributed to the mood and setting of the story (black and white). Compare this book to the movie (in theaters Dec. 15, 2017).

R.9 Read the article included to learn more about bullfighting.

Writing Lesson Ideas:

W.1 Students answer the question "Is it okay to be different?"

Students explain why it is important to get to know

One day five men came in very funny hats to pick the biggest, fastest, roughest bull to fight in the bull fights in Madrid.

~Fe

## COMPARATIVE AND SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES

A comparative adjective is used to compare two things. A superlative adjective is used when you compare three or more things, or you are referring to something being the "most." Cut out the activity and put glue only behind the left and write strips. Cut up the middle, and then across each side to make four flaps on each side. strip. Write sentences under the flaps to make these adjectives comparative and superlative adjectives.

large (comparative)	large (superlative)
strong (comparative)	strong (superlative)

Monday - possibilities of things to notice  
\*superlative adjectives  
commas between adjectives  
proper noun - Madrid  
simple sentence  
declarative  
prepositional phrases  
plural nouns - men, hats, fights  
past tense

Tuesday - label the sentence  
One, five, funny, biggest, fastest, roughest, bull - adjectives  
day, men, hats, bull, fights, Madrid - nouns  
came - verb  
in - preposition  
very - adverb  
to pick, to fight - infinitive verbs  
the - article

\*\*This is a great sentence to show how words can have more than one function - bull is a noun and adjective, fight is a noun and a verb.

One day five men came in very funny hats to pick the biggest, fastest, roughest bull to fight in the bull fights in Madrid.  
complete subject complete predicate  
simple subject simple predicate

Wednesday - possibility of revised sentence

One day five scary-looking men arrived in very funny hats to pick the biggest, fastest, roughest bull to fight in the bull fights in Madrid.  
(added adjective and changed to vivid verb)

Thursday - possibility of imitation sentence

One day many ladies came with flowers in their hair to watch the shyest, gentlest, quietest bull sit in the center of the ring.

Name: Answer Key Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Editing Assessment



One day five men came in very funny hats to pick the biggest, fastest, roughest bull to fight in the bull fights in Madrid.

1. Circle 4 mistakes in the sentence. Rewrite the sentence correctly:  
One day five men came in very funny hats to pick the biggest, fastest, roughest bull to fight in the bull fights in Madrid.

Add suffixes to the adjectives to show they are comparative or superlative:  
(for example: He was slower than me.)

- Ferdinand was biggerer than he was when he was young.
- The other bulls were much fiercer than Ferdinand.
- The five men thought Ferdinand was the roughest bull of all.
- Ferdinand was much gentler than the other bulls.
- The Picadores stick the bull to make him madder.
- The Matador is the proudest of all.
- Ferdinand did not show he was the fastest bull because, instead, he sat down in the center of the ring.
- Ferdinand thought the flowers in the ladies' hair were the loveliest.
- Ferdinand is much happier sitting under his cork tree.

Name: ANSWER KEY Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Use the text and picture clues to help you infer the meaning of these words.

WORD	PART OF SPEECH	BOOK CLUES	YOUR DEFINITION
pasture	noun	the picture shows a wide open field	meadow or grassy field

Name: ANSWER KEY Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## WORD ASSOCIATION

Associate the vocabulary words with the events, and explain your thinking.

WORD	ASSOCIATION
pasture	meadow or grassy field
fierce	the picture shows a wide open field
lonesome	Even sat at the table by himself, and he was sad that none of his friends
Matador	the picture shows a wide open field

Name: ANSWER KEY Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## WHAT'S THE SCENE?

Use the vocabulary words to describe these scenes.

Even sat at the table by himself, and he was sad that none of his friends	lonesome
The matador was feeling lonely	lonesome

Name: ANSWER KEY Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW

- Which word has the same meaning as fierce?  
a. gentle    **b. ferocious**    c. lonely
- What does a Matador do?  
**He fights bulls in a ring to be awarded for his bravery.**
- Draw a picture of a pasture, and label what is in it:  
**drawings will vary**  
**should include grass, maybe animals, flowers, few trees**
- What can you do to help someone who feels lonesome?  
**answers will vary - ask them to sit with you, etc.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Ferdinand

Is it okay to be different?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: Possible Answers Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Ferdinand & Bull Fighting

- Using information from *Bull Fighting*, why did the five men in *Ferdinand* want to pick a bull who was the largest and fiercest?  
**The Matador wants a bull that will be very angry to show how courageous he is as he fights him.**
- What did you learn in *Bull Fighting* that was also described in *Ferdinand*?  
a. Bull fighting began 1,300 years ago.  
**b. Picadores stick their spears to make the bull charge.**  
c. The Matador waves the muleta.  
d. A Matador is awarded trophies.
- What was Ferdinand supposed to do according to *Bull Fighting*?  
a. sit down  
b. snort  
c. throw flowers  
**d. charge**
- Using information from *Bull Fighting*, why did the men likely wear flower garlands?  
**They would throw them into the ring for the Matador after the fight.**

## Bull Fighting

Bull fighting began in Spain over 1,300 years ago. It was originally a sport for only kings and queens to watch, but now, anyone can attend.

In a bull fight, the bull is released into the center of a large ring. All of the people who come to watch the fight sit in the stands around the ring. Men on horses with large spears, called Picadores, poke the bull to make him angry. The main bullfighter is called a Matador. He wants the bull to charge, or rush aggressively, at him. He wants the Picadores to make the bull mad so he can prove that he is brave and strong.

The Matador carries a muleta, which is a piece of red cloth. He waves the muleta in front of himself to make the bull charge at him, then he waves it away to the side of his body. The bull hopefully continues to run at the muleta, meaning he runs under the cloth and comes out on the other side. This is a dance with death for a Matador because he could easily be hurt by the bull running over him, or by one of the bull's very sharp horns. A Matador will be awarded for his skill with the bull with trophies, and women will throw flowers into the ring.

What did you learn about...

Depending on the picture - could be that Ferdinand appeared to be a different kind of bull than he really was, or how gentle he was compared to other bulls

Name: Possible Answers Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Ferdinand

Compare Ferdinand to the other bulls.

likes to sit quietly  
smells the flowers  
likes to be alone

grew to be big and strong

they run, jump, butt heads  
they like to fight  
they stick each other with their horns

Name: Possible Answers Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Ferdinand

Describe Ferdinand through his thoughts, words, and actions.

trait: peaceful

thoughts: Ferdinand knew they wouldn't pick him and he didn't care.

words: "I like it better when I can sit just quietly and smell the flowers."

actions: He did not fight when he was put into the middle of the ring.

Name: Possible Answers Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Ferdinand

Give details to support the moral of the story.

Moral: Don't jump to make quick judgments of others.

Detail: Ferdinand likes to sit quietly under the cork tree and smell the flowers.

Detail: Ferdinand was stung by a bee and snorted, puffed, and acted crazy, so the men chose him for the bull fight.

Detail: Ferdinand sat down quietly in the middle of the ring.

I learned... answers will vary

Get to know someone first before judging them.