# HYPHENS

GLUE

A **hyphen** is used to join two or more words, or to join some prefixes to words.

A **hyphen** is shorter than a dash and does not have a space on either side of it. It 'glues' two or more words, or some prefixes and a word, together.
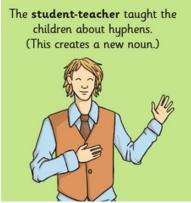
## When you should use a hyphen.... with examples...

**compound adjective**

Georgina hung her **hot-pink** coat on the hook.

free-range eggs
two-day break
ten-year-old girl

**joining nouns**

The **student-teacher** taught the children about hyphens. (This creates a new noun.)

passer-by
sister-in-law
great-aunt

**informal words/phrases**

The song became a bit of a **free-for-all** with everyone singing at once.

mix-up
half-hearted
state-of-the-art

**prefix combinations**

The children seemed incapable of **co-operating** with each other.

re-enter
semi-conscious
co-ordinate

**clarify meaning**

Bill requested that the email be **re-sent**.

man-eating/man eating
re-cover/recover
re-press/repress

**numbers 21-99**

Sam came first in the marathon in which one hundred and **twenty-seven** people raced.

twenty-one
fifty-four
eighty-nine