Be brave with words: Using words to be brave

Miss Trunchbull is a menacing rottrasper. She locks children in the chokey and throws them about by their hair. But occasionally, some very brave individuals stand up to her.

For example, Miss Trunchbull insists to Miss Honey’s class that she cannot stand ‘small people’ . . .

But an ‘extremely brave little boy’ asks her ‘But surely you were a small person once, Miss Trunchbull, weren’t you?’

This little boy in Matilda’s class bravely uses the word ‘but’ to challenge Miss Trunchbull. Words can help us to be brave. We can use them to contradict or challenge someone, to tell them to stop, to help us believe in ourselves and to shape the world around us.

In each of the rows below, all the words (except one) are words that relate to being brave or courageous. We call these synonyms. Synonyms are words or phrases that mean the same or similar.

Draw a circle around the odd word out in each row.

1 brave courageous fearless afraid daring
2 strong powerful fragile authoritative influential
3 knowledge wisdom learning know-how ignorance
4 confident nervous optimistic gutsy self-belief
5 however and but nonetheless having said that

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Now, can you find those bravery words from the table overleaf in this wordsearch? The first one has been found for you!

T I P:
there are
20 to
find!

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