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# children's thesaurus



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT

## alert • alter

**alert** *adjective* ♦ attentive, vigilant, watchful  
 ♦ **observant, ready** The lifeguard at the pool is always *alert* for signs of distress. —*verb* ♦ **advise, notify, warn** ♦ **inform, signal** We were *alerted* to prepare for more flooding. —*noun* ♦ **alarm, signal, warning** ♦ **siren** Everyone ran to their storm cellars when they heard the tornado *alert*.

### Word Groups

An **alibi** is a claim that a person was elsewhere when a crime took place. **Alibi** is a very specific term with no true synonyms. Here are some related words to investigate in a dictionary:

**account, excuse, explanation, reason, report, statement, story, version**

**alike** *adjective* ♦ identical, similar, uniform  
 ♦ **matched** No two snowflakes are *alike* in every detail. —*adverb* ♦ **identically, similarly**  
 ♦ **equally, uniformly** Olga and her twin sister Olivia usually dress *alike*.

**alive** *adjective* ♦ live, living ♦ active, breathing, existing Chen found a baby bird, and he kept it *alive* by feeding it worms.

**allegiance** *noun* ♦ fidelity, loyalty ♦ devotion, obedience My dog gives his *allegiance* to whoever feeds him.

**alliance** *noun* ♦ pact, union ♦ agreement, treaty Dale and Oscar formed an *alliance* against the neighborhood bully.

**allied** *adjective* ♦ combined, joint, united  
 ♦ **associated, connected** The dwarves and elves decided to form an *allied* army to defeat the goblin horde.

**allot** *verb* ♦ allocate, allow, assign, give  
 ♦ **distribute, share** Mrs. Blake *allotted* each pupil five minutes for his or her speech.

**allow** *verb* ♦ let, permit ♦ approve, authorize When my mom makes cookies, she always *allows* me to lick the spoon.

**ally** *verb* ♦ join, unite ♦ associate, combine, unify The citizen groups *allied* with each other to lobby for a new playground. —*noun* ♦ **partner**  
 ♦ **assistant, associate, colleague** Angela and Eugene were *allies* in the snowball fight.

**almost** *adverb* ♦ nearly, practically ♦ about, mostly, virtually Davin *almost* flew off his bicycle when he hit the big pothole.

**alone** *adjective* ♦ unaccompanied, unattended ♦ isolated, secluded, solitary Hillary was *alone* all afternoon while her mom ran errands.

**aloud** *adverb* ♦ out loud ♦ audibly, loudly, openly Gretchen enjoys reading *aloud* to her little brother. ▼



**also** *adverb* ♦ as well, besides, too ♦ additionally, furthermore Everett felt sick because he ate all of the cookies and half the cupcakes *also*.

**alter** *verb* ♦ change, modify, transform, vary  
 ♦ **revise** Chanay's new haircut completely *alters* her appearance.