

Positive verbs that start with S

22 verbs with meanings and examples. Updated 10 October 2026. Free to print and share in a classroom.

Safeguard v.

To protect something valuable from harm or loss.
Clear backups safeguard years of careful research.

Sanctify v.

To make something holy, honored, or morally meaningful.
The ceremony will sanctify their promise of lifelong care.

Satisfy v.

To meet a need, hope, or standard.
The new ramp should satisfy both safety and access requirements.

Savor v.

To enjoy and appreciate something fully and deliberately.
They paused to savor the quiet moment together.

Serve v.

To help, support, or provide something useful to others.
The new clinic will serve five remote communities.

Shelter v.

To protect someone or something from danger or hardship.
The hall can shelter families during severe weather.

Shine v.

To give light or perform with impressive ability.
The young actors shine when given room to improvise.

Simplify v.

To make something clearer, easier, or less complicated.
Color labels simplify the routine for new volunteers.

Smile v.

To form an expression that often shows warmth, pleasure, or welcome.
The conductor smiled when the difficult passage finally came together.

Soar v.

To rise high or improve with remarkable speed.
Her confidence began to soar after the first recital.

Solve v.

To find an effective answer to a problem.
The students used careful measurements to solve the design flaw.

Soothe v.

To calm pain, worry, or distress.
A familiar voice helped soothe the frightened dog.

Spark v.

To begin or inspire energy, interest, or change.

The workshop could spark a lifelong interest in science.

Sparkle v.

To shine brightly or show lively joy and wit.

Her eyes sparkle whenever she talks about the garden.

Stimulate v.

To encourage activity, growth, thought, or interest.

The puzzle will stimulate creative thinking.

Strengthen v.

To make stronger, more effective, or more resilient.

Regular maintenance will strengthen the bridge.

Strive v.

To work earnestly toward a worthwhile goal.

Young researchers strive to make clean energy more affordable.

Succeed v.

To achieve an intended result or make useful progress.

The plan can succeed if the team tests the riskiest assumption first.

Support v.

To give help, strength, or encouragement.

Neighbors support the pantry with weekly donations.

Surpass v.

To do better than a standard or previous achievement.

The new filter may surpass the old model in every test.

Survive v.

To remain alive or continue through serious difficulty.

The rescued saplings survived the dry summer.

Sustain v.

To support, maintain, or keep something going.

Regular donations sustain the free meal program.