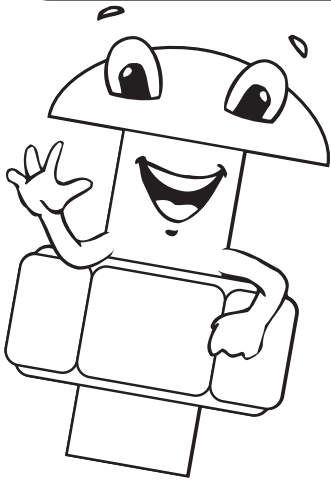


Name: _____

Power Skill: Identifying common and proper nouns



The Nuts and Bolts of Nouns

Get a grip on common and proper nouns! A *common noun* is the general name of a person, a place, a thing, or an idea and is not capitalized unless it is at the beginning of a sentence.

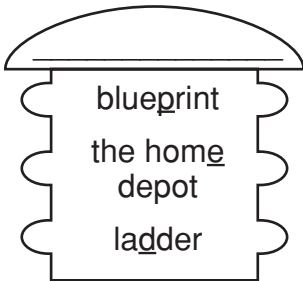
Examples: bolt, nail, hammer

A *proper noun* is the specific name of a person, a place, a thing, or an idea and is always capitalized.

Examples: Harold's Hardware Store, Black & Decker

Directions: Read the nouns on each bolt below. Circle the proper noun in each. On the line provided, rewrite each proper noun and insert capital letters as needed. Then rearrange the underlined letters in the proper nouns to answer the riddle below.

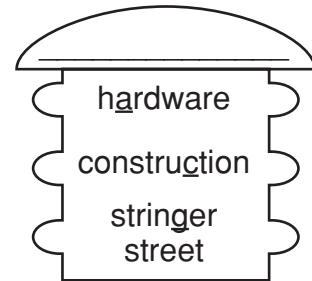
1.



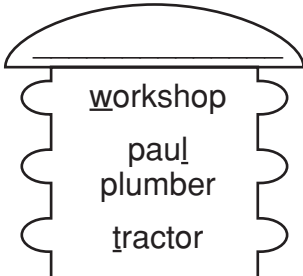
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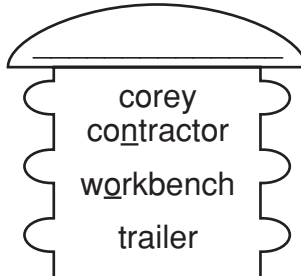
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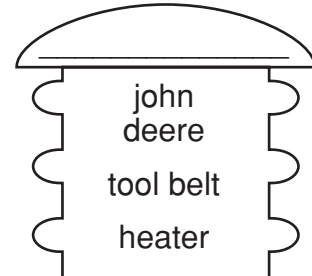
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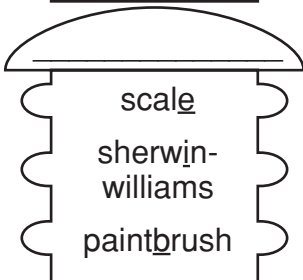
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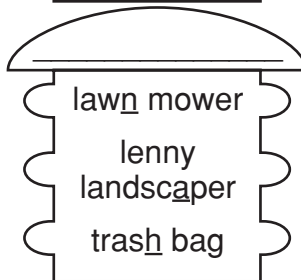
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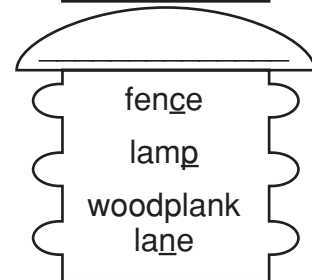
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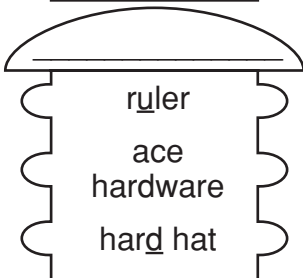
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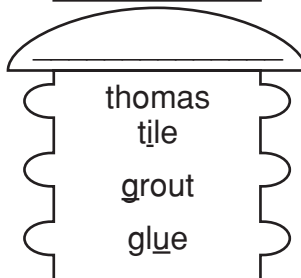
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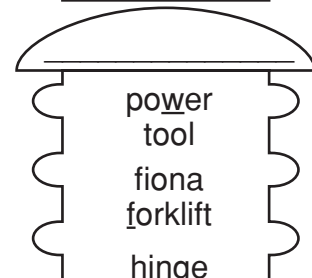
10.



11.



12.



What kind of nail does a construction worker try to avoid hitting?

Name: _____

Power Skill: Identifying nouns

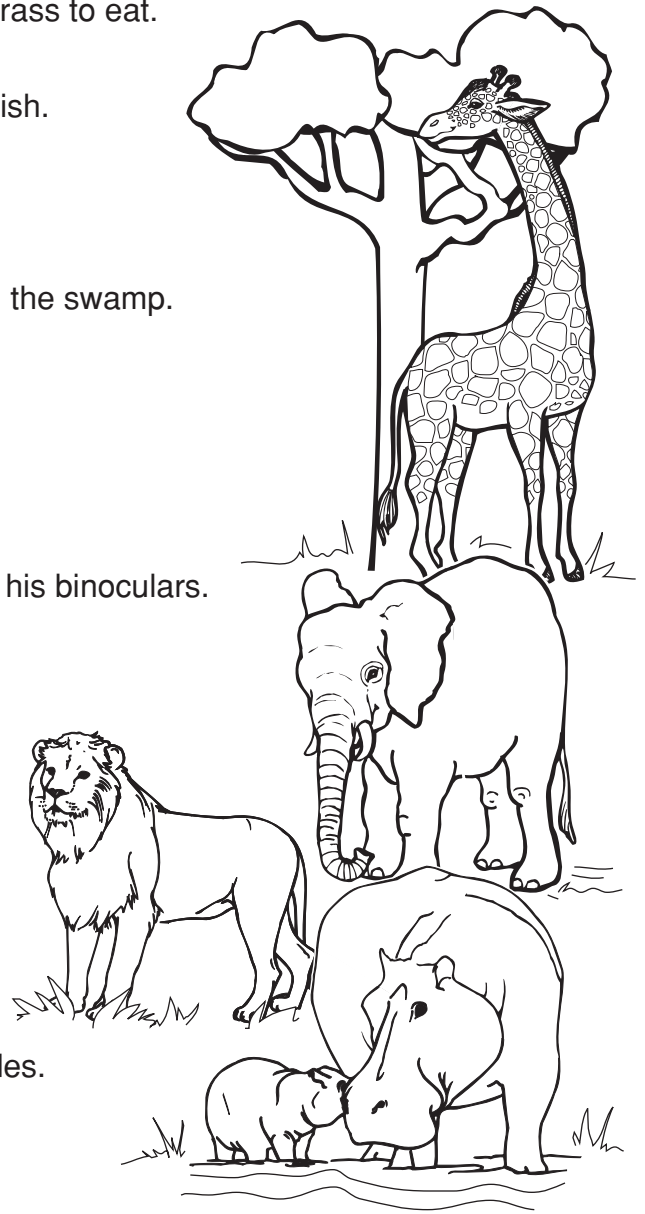
Noun Safari

Grab your binoculars and your pencil and get ready for a Noun Safari! In each sentence below, search for people, places, and things that might be commonly found on a safari. **Hint:** There is more than one noun in each sentence.

Directions: Circle the nouns in each sentence; then write “p” for person, “pl” for place, or “t” for thing above each circled word.

Example: The ^pguide drove through the ^{pl}plains in his ^ttruck.

1. Elephants travel across the plains searching for grass to eat.
2. The girl spotted a group of flamingos eating shellfish.
3. Leopards will climb mountains in search of food.
4. The tourists noticed a hippopotamus swimming in the swamp.
5. Cheetahs run through the grasslands after prey.
6. A giraffe uses its long neck to reach high leaves.
7. The man spotted an ostrich as he looked through his binoculars.
8. Colorful birds fly gracefully through the air.
9. Monkeys live in the forests or on the plains.
10. Two zebras have young foals with them.
11. Crocodiles live in lakes, rivers, and swamps.
12. Lions live on savannas in small groups called prides.



BRAINWORK:

On the back of this sheet, write five sentences using the three types of nouns in each sentence. Then have a friend try to find them all.

Sherply on the Case



Secret Agent Sherply needs help organizing her case notes so that following the leads is easier. Read Agent Sherply's case notes. Then list all of the common and proper nouns in each note on the correct folders.

Common Nouns

A common noun names any person, place, or thing.
Examples: girl, country, holiday

Proper Nouns

A proper noun names a specific person, place, or thing.
Examples: Jessica, England, Thanksgiving

Maxwell Melvin will meet with the mailman at midnight.

Henry Hutchins is hiding for the holiday.

Phoenix is the next city in which to pursue the missing parrots.

Catherine caught the crook in California.

Diamonds were discovered in the downtown office.

Check the corner store on Halloween for stolen candy.

Watch the Braxton Building on Bunting Avenue.

Leave the letter for Lester in the lobby of the Lexington Hotel.

Beavers chewed through five benches at the park.

Common Nouns

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Proper Nouns

BRAINWORK

On the back of this sheet, write a paragraph about Secret Agent Sherply pursuing a lead for one of her cases. Draw boxes around the common nouns and circles around the proper nouns.

Name: _____

Power Skill: Using pronouns

 **Pop Music Pronouns** 

Pronouns Rock, Inc., a new recording company, specializes in releasing songs with pronouns in the titles. In fact, *only* songs with pronouns in the titles are released by this exclusive company.

Part I: Review the definition and examples of pronouns shown on the cassette. Then underline the pronouns in the song titles on each CD below.

Pronouns are words that take the place of nouns.
○ ○
Examples: I, you, him, us, they

Let Her Go ①	I Need You ②	You Said, She Said ③	He Said Good-Bye to Me ④
You and I Alone ⑤	We Danced ⑥	They Don't Understand Us ⑦	Crazy About You ⑧

Part II: Rewrite each of the following titles on the lines provided. Replace each underlined word with a pronoun.

<u>Jim</u> Loves <u>Sarah</u> ⑨ _____ _____	<u>The Stars</u> Shine for <u>Sammy</u> ⑩ _____ _____	<u>The Rain</u> Reminded <u>Michael</u> and <u>Me</u> of <u>Mama</u> ⑪ _____ _____	<u>People</u> Make <u>Donna</u> Smile ⑫ _____ _____
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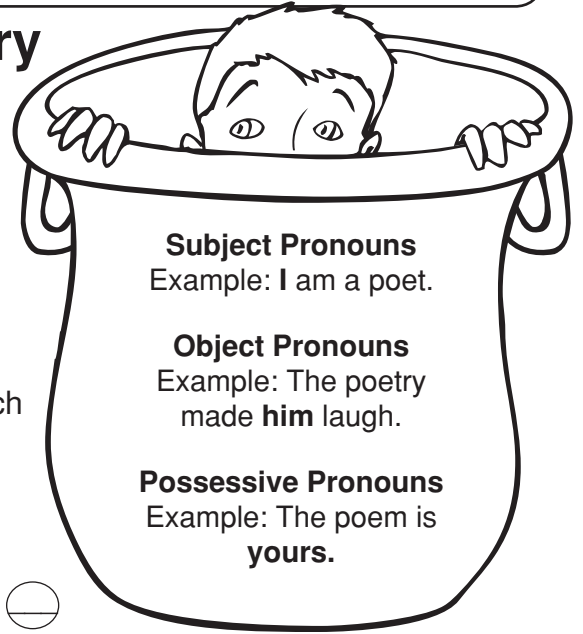
BRAINWORK: On the back of this sheet, list five familiar songs that have one or more pronouns in the title. Underline each pronoun. Then rewrite each title, replacing the pronouns with nouns.

Name: _____

Power Skill: Using pronouns

Pronoun Poetry

What's great about Shel Silverstein? In addition to writing great poetry, he uses lots of *pronouns*, words that take the place of nouns. Study the three types of pronouns shown on the cooking pot. Then read the poem below and follow the directions to complete the activity.



Directions: Underline the subject pronouns in red, object pronouns in green, and possessive pronouns in blue. Then write each pronoun on the spaces provided at the end of each line. When you finish, write the circled letters on the numbered lines below the poem to solve the puzzle.

Shel Silverstein

We all love the poems of Shel Silverstein.
 He turned out rhymes like a well-oiled machine.
 They're the funniest poems you have ever read;
 I bet you have a poem right now in your head.
 Surely you know about Peggy Ann McKay?
 She played sick to miss school on a SATURDAY!
 Or Hector, who collected incredible junk,
 Lovingly crammed in his old treasure trunk.
 There's Milford Dupree, who was incredibly crude.
 Milford talked and he laughed with a mouth full of food.
 There's a boa constrictor; it eats toe to snout.
 And Sarah, she just *won't* take the garbage out!
 Consider the sad fate of poor Jimmy Jet.
 Jet watched so much TV, he changed into a set!
 Shel told us great stories of a light in the attic,
 Where sidewalks end, and of folks who make magic.
 Go ahead now; get his books from your shelf.
 Find a comfortable chair and enjoy yourself!

1. _____ ○
2. ○ _____
3. ○ _____
4. ○ _____
5. ○ _____
6. _____ ○
7. _____ ○
8. _____ ○
9. _____ ○
10. _____ ○
11. _____ ○
12. _____ ○
13. _____ ○
14. _____
15. _____ ○
16. ○ _____
17. _____ ○
18. ○ _____
19. _____
20. _____ ○
21. _____

What were Shel Silverstein's final words as he prepared his pot of "Me-Stew"?

"... $\frac{5}{5}$ $\frac{2}{2}$ $\frac{8}{8}$ $\frac{p}{1}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{12}{12}$ $\frac{6}{6}$ $\frac{13}{13}$ $\frac{n}{10}$ $\frac{j}{4}$ $\frac{m}{15}$

$\frac{18}{18}$ $\frac{11}{11}$ $\frac{3}{3}$ $\frac{16}{16}$ $\frac{c}{7}$ $\frac{a}{9}$ $\frac{c}{20}$ $\frac{k}{17}$!"

BRAINWORK:

On the back of this sheet, write your own pronoun poem. Use at least five different pronouns.

Name: _____

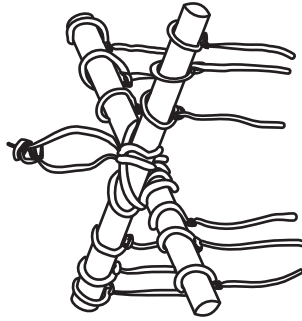
Power Skill: Identifying action verbs

Space Shuttle Action

Launch this space shuttle mobile to show what you know about action verbs! Read the sentence on each shuttle. Highlight the action verb in each sentence. Remember, an action verb tells what the subject does or did.

Directions for mobile:

1. Cut out each shuttle and punch a hole where indicated.
2. Complete the **BRAINWORK** section at the bottom of this page.
3. Position the straws as shown.
4. Wrap the straws with a length of string to tie them together. Knot the ends to form a loop.
5. Tie a length of string to each shuttle. Then tie six shuttles to each straw to create a mobile.



1. A space shuttle lands like an airplane.

2. As many as eight crew members travel in a space shuttle.

3. NASA conducted flight tests on the first space shuttle, *Enterprise*, in 1977.

4. Space shuttles carry space probes, artificial satellites, and other objects.

5. In 1981, NASA reused the *Columbia* space shuttle.

6. The USA stopped using shuttles for military purposes in the early 1990s.

7. The space shuttle system consists of three parts.

8. The *Endeavor* crew repaired the *Hubble Space Telescope* in 1993.

BRAINWORK

Trace and cut out four more shuttles from white paper. On each of the cutouts, write a sentence about something you find interesting about space shuttles. Highlight the action verb in each of your sentences.

Name: _____

Power Skill: Using irregular verbs

A Visit With an Inuit Grandfather

Irregular verbs can be tricky. An irregular verb doesn't form its past and past participle by adding *-d* or *-ed* to its present form. Some irregular verbs don't change at all. Read the examples below and think about each verb form.

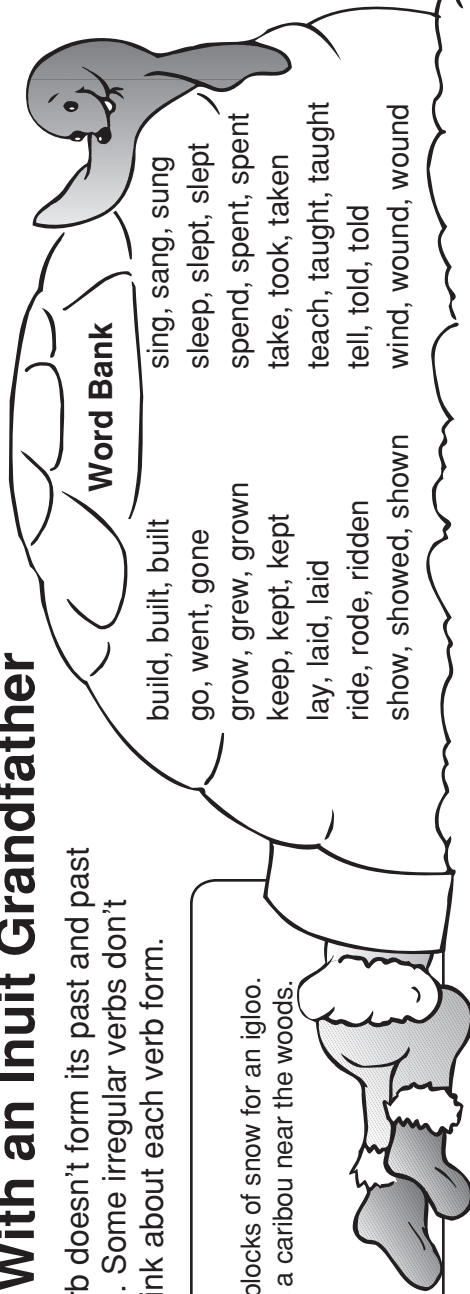
Present:

Now I cut blocks of snow for an igloo.
Now I see a caribou near the woods.

Past Participle:
I have cut blocks of snow for an igloo.
I have seen a caribou near the woods.

Past:

Yesterday I cut blocks of snow for an igloo.
Yesterday I saw a caribou near the woods.



Word Bank

build, built, built	sing, sang, sung
go, went, gone	sleep, slept, slept
grow, grew, grown	spend, spent, spent
keep, kept, kept	take, took, taken
lay, laid, laid	teach, taught, taught
ride, rode, ridden	tell, told, told
show, showed, shown	wind, wound, wound

Directions: Read the story and write the correct form of each verb on the line provided. Label the present with “pr,” the past with “pa,” and the past participle with “pp.” Use the igloo word bank if you need help.

Tuma and Nanook visit their grandfather, Olak, each winter. Olak _____ (1. spend) his childhood in igloos, living like his Inuit ancestors. Tuma and Nanook never _____ (2. grow) tired of hearing Olak's stories of life on the frozen shores near Baffin Bay.

During the winter, Olak lives in a permanent igloo that he has _____ (3. build) from hard-packed snow. One year, he _____ (4. show) Nanook and Tuma how to build an igloo. The three of them cut huge snow blocks with a special knife. Then they _____ (5. lay) the blocks in a circular pattern. The rows of blocks _____ (6. wind) upward in smaller and smaller circles. Building the dome-shaped shelter had _____ (7. take) only a few hours. Nanook and Tuma _____ (8. sleep) in their cozy igloo that night.

Each year when his grandchildren visit, Olak _____ (9. sing) songs and _____ (10. tell) stories about their Inuit ancestors. Nanook and Tuma learn that, in the old days, the Inuit people depended on animals for survival. They _____ (11. keep) teams of dogs that pulled their plank sleds over the snow. The people sometimes _____ (12. ride) in kayaks to hunt seals, whales, and caribou. They also _____ (13. go) fishing and trapping.

Over the years, Olak has _____ (14. teach) his grandchildren to share their ancestors' respect for all living things. Someday, Nanook and Tuma will share Olak's stories with their own grandchildren so that the ways of the Inuit people will not be forgotten.

BRAINWORKS

Imagine what it would be like to go ice fishing with Olak. Write a story describing the adventure. Circle and label all the irregular verb forms in your story.