

Noun Fun

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Noun Definition: A noun is the name of a person, place, thing or idea.

The Noun Game

Let your little one know that a noun is a name of a person, place, thing or idea. Go to a local feed store and get a feed sack (which would be close to what a farmer would use in the middle ages to sow seed). Either make an arm loop yourself or have someone experienced in sewing make one for you. Send your child off to find 10 nouns in the backyard, the front yard, his room, the frontroom, the kitchen, the bathroom, or where you choose. As your child pulls the noun out of his feed sack, have the child identify the noun while you say, "A noun is a name of a person, place, thing or idea." This only needs to take about 5-10 minutes. Do not drag it out. Take only one target area a day (e.g., front yard, bedroom, etc.). In that way, your child will have plenty of practice picking up and identifying nouns. Children have a tendency to be very concrete. This concrete exercise will help him understand nouns in such a way that he will become VERY comfortable with them. One child, for example, was sent into the frontroom to retrieve 5 nouns. She came back carrying her little sister. When asked how this could cover 5 nouns, the child responded exasperatedly with, "Oh ma ! why she is a girl, sister, daughter, child, friend!"

Noun Field Trips

In order for your scholar to really grasp the concept of common nouns, you may want to take several field trips to stores, malls, church, etc. Prior to going on the field trip, you may want to practice at home.

Examples:

Take your scholar into the kitchen. While s/he is standing there, have your scholar list off what s/he sees, e.g., stove, oven, ice box, counter, mixer, clock, faucet, sink, drawers, cupboard, mugs, dishes, flatware, plates, cups, saucers, cereal, fruit, vegetables, spices, timer, salt, pepper, microwave, bread machine, (coffee) pot, towels, dishcloths, dishwasher, etc.

Bathroom = tub, shower, toilet, curtain, floor, ceiling, sink, cabinet, towel, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush, perfume, deodorant, etc.

Bedroom = bed, closet, shoes, clothes, slacks, toys, blanket, pillow, window, floor, hanger, etc.

As you are sitting in the car preparing to go on your field trip, have your scholar start to identify nouns s/he sees, e.g., dashboard, handle, lock, key, windshield, (steering) wheel, radio, pedal, etc. Next, as you drive, have your scholar identify nouns s/he sees while going to your field trip, e.g., cars, road, trees, flowers, birds, (license) plates, billboards, buildings, stores, police, accident (hopefully not, but it is a noun), signs, etc.

If you go to the mall, for example, take your scholar to different sections in a department store to identify the various nouns s/he sees. The linen department, for example, may have towels, washcloths, tablecloths, (napkin) rings, napkins, placemats, quilts, sheets, pillowcases, doilies, towels, runners, etc. Department stores offer many sections e.g., housewares, women/men/children sections, shoes, automotive, etc. Do not forget the specialized stores within a mall as they offer many opportunities to identify nouns.

Field trips to church, post office, fire department, police department, department of motor vehicles, zoos, restaurants, libraries, museums, amusement parks, etc. offer an almost endless variety of nouns to be identified.

Proper Nouns

Proper Noun Definition: The name of a particular person, place, thing or idea. Proper nouns are always capitalized.

In order to connect proper nouns with capitalization, over exaggerate the term proper. You may want to imitate a British accent while performing a courtesy or a bow.

Exercise

Verbally, give as as many proper names of the nouns listed below as you can. Do this as quickly as you can!

girls, heroes, books, holidays, weekdays, Bible characters,
Bible books, amusement parks, nicknames, presidents,
animal pet names, Books of the Bible, apostles

Example:

boys = Douglas, Edward, John, Peter, Andrew, Alexander, Joshua, Caleb

Common/Proper Noun Activity

What you will need:

- 2 pieces of construction paper or 2 posters
- glue
- scissors
- old magazines that may be cut up
- markers

Note: Frequently, old magazines may be picked up for free at the post office in a bin or from the public library.

On top of one piece of construction paper or on the poster, take a color marker and write:

Common Nouns

On top of the other piece of construction paper or on the poster, take a color marker and write:

Proper Nouns

For the proper/common nouns poster, you may want to have categories indicating specific people, places, things and ideas.

Recommendation: Allow your child to pick the marker colors. If your child is old enough to write the titles, let the child do so if s/he desires.

Have your child go through old magazines cutting out pictures that apply specifically for each category, i.e., common noun or proper noun.

Proudly display your child's grammar artwork in a prominent place in your home.

Noun Fun

Verbally, fill in the blank with a noun.

_____ swim.
(noun) (verb)

_____ flow.
(noun) (verb)

_____ run.
(noun) (verb)

_____ freezes.
(noun) (verb)

_____ play.
(noun) (verb)

_____ melts.
(noun) (verb)

_____ whistle.
(noun) (verb)

_____ growl.
(noun) (verb)

_____ carry.
(noun) (verb)

_____ sigh.
(noun) (verb)

_____ trots.
(noun) (verb)

_____ climb.
(noun) (verb)

_____ fly.
(noun) (verb)

_____ shines.
(noun) (verb)

_____ glistens.
(noun) (verb)

_____ ran.
(noun) (verb)

_____ told.
(noun) (verb)

_____ talked.
(noun) (verb)

_____ burned.
(noun) (verb)

_____ broke.
(noun) (verb)

_____ ripples.
(noun) (verb)

_____ skate.
(noun) (verb)

_____ hunt.
(noun) (verb)

_____ roar.
(noun) (verb)

_____ flashes.
(noun) (verb)

_____ buzz.
(noun) (verb)

_____ snores.
(noun) (verb)

_____ hide.
(noun) (verb)

_____ breaks.
(noun) (verb)

_____ sees.
(noun) (verb)

_____ rolls.
(noun) (verb)

_____ rattle.
(noun) (verb)

_____ learn.
(noun) (verb)

_____ talk.
(noun) (verb)

_____ hardens.
(noun) (verb)

_____ knits.
(noun) (verb)

_____ sews.
(noun) (verb)

_____ builds.
(noun) (verb)

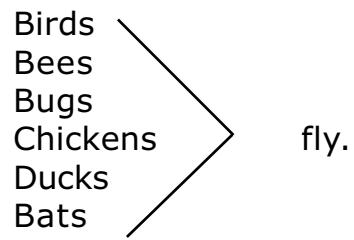
_____ mows.
(noun) (verb)

_____ mews.
(noun) (verb)

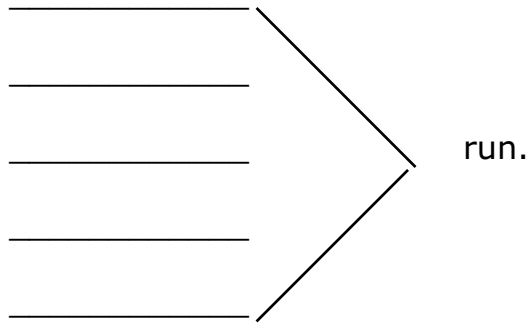
Think of as many nouns (subjects) as you can that fit the verb (predicate).

Example:

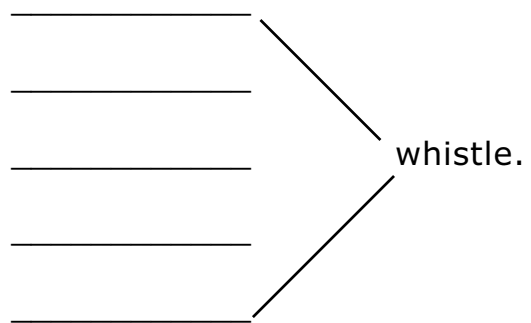
Birds
Bees
Bugs
Chickens
Ducks
Bats



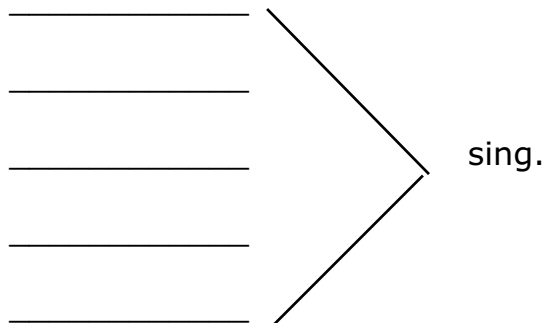
fly.



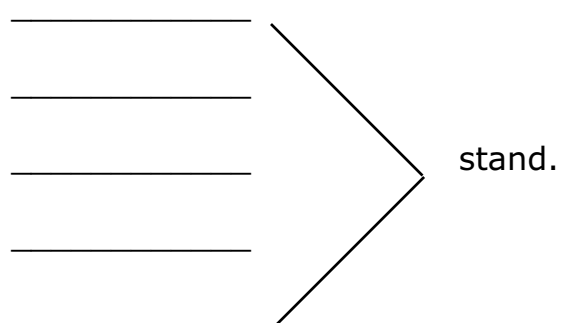
run.



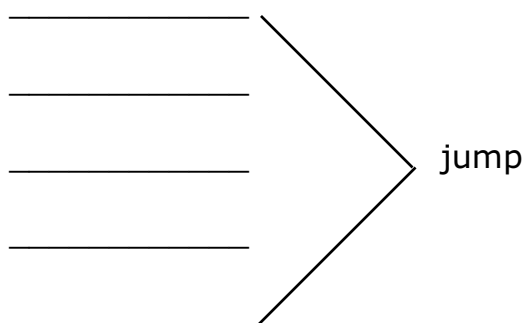
whistle.



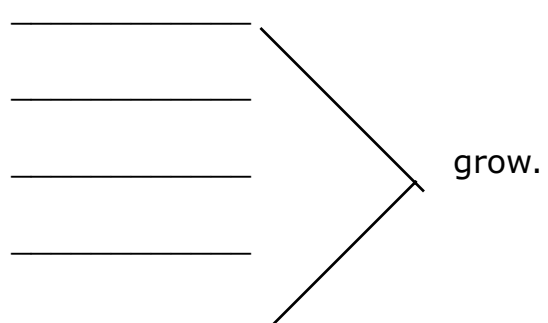
sing.



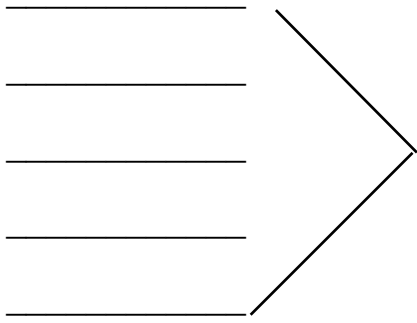
stand.



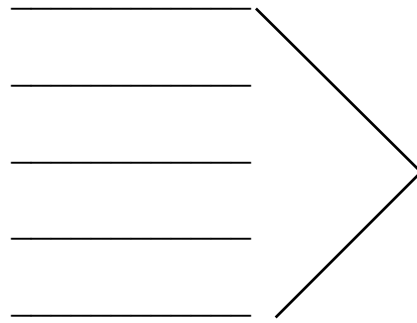
jump



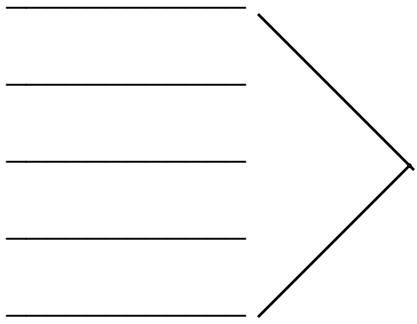
grow.



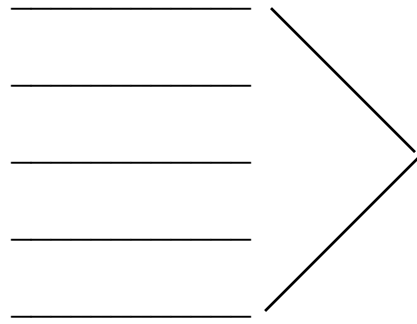
trot.



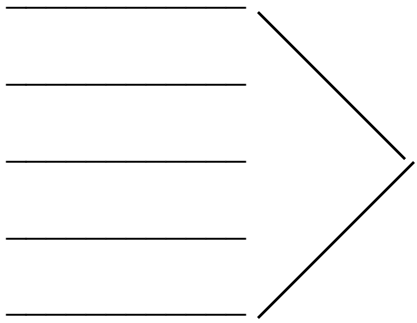
melts.



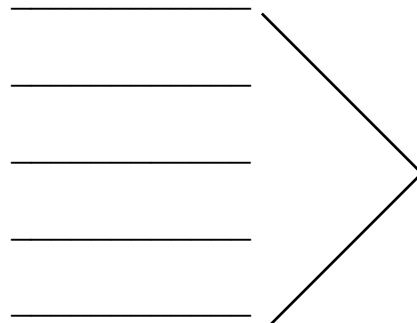
sit.



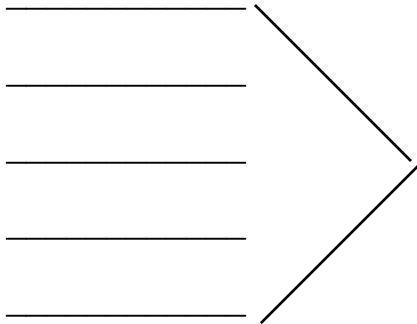
play.



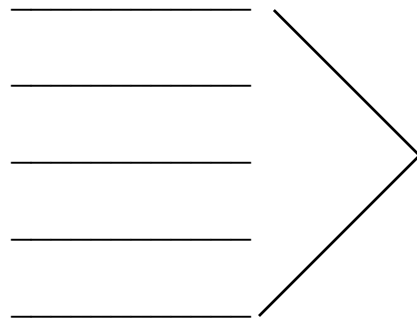
shine.



work.



bite.



float.

Flashcards

Cut on solid lines and fold on the dotted lines.

Front

Back

<p style="text-align: center;">Noun Definition</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt 1997-2002, all rights reserved</p>	<p>A noun is the name of a person, place, thing or idea.</p> <p>Person = girl, boy, lady, man Place = park, church, Iowa Thing = block, toy, chair, table Idea = love, courage, strength</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">Proper Noun Definition</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt 1997-2002, all rights reserved</p>	<p>The name of a particular person, place, thing or idea. Proper nouns are always capitalized.</p> <p>George Bush, Joshua, Abigail Adams, Friday, Christmas, Detroit, Ford, April, Empire State Building</p>
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