## Back to Learning!

### Literacy Activities

**Ages 7 - 9**

**Nouns and Comprehension**

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**Day 1**

A **noun** is a person, place, or thing. A **proper noun** names a specific person, place, or thing. **Proper nouns** have capital letters at the beginning. A **common noun** does not name a specific person, place, or thing.

Examples of proper nouns: Joe, Britain

Examples of common nouns: teacher, restaurant

Cut out the words in the Word Bank. Then, glue them into the correct area on the chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proper Noun</th>
<th>Common Noun</th>
<th>Not a Noun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>look</td>
<td>house</td>
<td>dog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>Sarah</td>
<td>block</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pretty</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>Essex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific</td>
<td>Ocean</td>
<td>table</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>book</td>
<td>pen</td>
<td>skip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Yorkshire</td>
<td>long</td>
<td>Mr. White</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Word Bank

- look
- house
- dog
- London
- Sarah
- block
- pretty
- long
- Essex
- book
- pen
- skip
- Pacific
- Ocean
- table
- learn
- North Yorkshire
- long
- Mr. White
Write a proper noun that goes with each of the common nouns below.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. prime minister</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. city</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. county</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. book</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. movie</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. entertainer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. mountain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. river</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. continent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. country</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Day 2

Write the plural noun for each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noun</th>
<th>Plural Noun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>egg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>child</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tooth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>table</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>family</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>question</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>school</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fox</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Day 2 (continued)

Choose the correct plural noun for each sentence.

1. My story is made of 5 different _________________.
   a. sentence
   b. sentences
   c. sentenced

2. There are more than 20 _________________ at the local zoo.
   a. animals
   b. animal
   c. animales

3. The school _________________ wait for the kids at the end of the day.
   a. bus
   b. buses
   c. buss

4. It is my job to set the table before dinner. I put out the forks, spoons, and _________________.
   a. knifes
   b. knives
   c. knivs
Day 2 (continued)

Choose the correct plural noun for each sentence.

5. Some of the _________________ at the gym run laps. Some of the _________________ at the gym swim in the pool.
   a. person
   b. persons
   c. people

6. I put my shoes on both of my _________________.
   a. feet
   b. foot
   c. foots

7. There are 7 _________________ playing catch at the beach today.
   a. dog
   b. doges
   c. dogs
Collective nouns are names for a group of people, places, animals, or objects. Draw a line to match each collective noun with the group it best describes.

- bunch: a __________ of fish
- pride: a __________ of bees
- school: a __________ of grapes
- swarm: a __________ of lions
- bouquet: a __________ of wolves
- herd: a __________ of singers
- pack: a __________ of cattle
Day 3 (continued)

Circle the collective noun that completes each sentence.

1. Mandy bought a new _________ of shoes at the store today.
   a. pair       b. deck       c. pride

2. The _______ of ants marched towards the crumbs under the bench.
   a. hive       b. gaggle     c. army

3. The _________ of whales swims in the ocean.
   a. pack       b. bushel     c. school

4. Mum trims the _________ of bushes every Saturday.
   a. swarm      b. hedge      c. pride

5. Sometimes for dinner I just eat a _________ of rice.
   a. bowl       b. pair       c. team

6. Natasha received a lovely ____________ of pearls for her 10th birthday.
   a. herd       b. string     c. forest

7. There is a huge _________ of ships on the sea today.
   a. bushel     b. school     c. fleet

8. The ______ of players gathered happily together after Marcus scored the winning basket.
   a. string     b. swarm     c. team

9. When I grow up, I want to join a __________ of sailors.
   a. crew       b. chest     c. nest

10. When I make jam on toast, I start by taking the _____ of jam out of the fridge.
    a. herd       b. circle    c. jar
Day 4

Read the facts about plants. Decide if each question can be answered by reading the facts about plants. Then, circle yes, or no.

• Plants need things to grow and stay healthy.
• Plants need just enough sun. Plants use sunlight to make food in their leaves.
• Plants need water. Plants get water from rain. People can use a hose to water plants, too.

1. How much sun do plants need? Yes No
2. What can happen if plants get little sun? Yes No
3. How can people give plants water? Yes No
4. When should people water their plants? Yes No
5. Where do plants make food? Yes No
6. Why do plants need water? Yes No
7. How tall do plants grow? Yes No
8. What happens if plants get too much sun? Yes No
9. How can plants in forests get water? Yes No
10. How many things do plants need to grow? Yes No
11. Where do plants grow best? Yes No
12. Why do plants need sunlight? Yes No
In 1848, a spark of gold changed history. It all started with a man in California. He was working to build a sawmill. The sawmill was being built on a river. He saw something shiny in the water. He had found bits of gold!

Word spread about the gold in the river. People came from all over the country. They hoped to find gold and get rich. Thousands of people came. New towns grew to support them. At first, people took gold out of the water. Then they began mining the land. They used machines to dig for gold deep in the ground.

Years passed. Most of the gold was gone. Mining had hurt the land. Still, people kept going west. The state of California grew. Today, it has more people than any other U.S. state.
Day 4 (continued)

1. When did the man in California first find gold?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

2. Where did the man find the gold in California?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

3. Who else came to find gold?
   a. pirates
   b. people from all over the country
   c. a few people from the west

4. What did people use to dig for gold?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

5. What did mining do to the land?
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

6. Write a question that you have about the text. Use a question word like who, what, where, when or why.
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
Sloths live in the rainforest. They are the world’s slowest animals. They are so slow that green algae grows on their fur. This may sound funny, but it is also helpful. The green algae helps sloths blend in with rainforest plants. This lets them hide from hunters. This is important because sloths are slow. They are too slow to run. Sloths really like to sleep. They are only awake for about 4 hours a day! No wonder they move so slowly. Think of how slow you are when you first wake up in the morning!

Sloths are special in other ways, too. They have long arms. They hang upside down from tree branches, like monkeys. Their eyes and nose look like a bear’s. They have either 2 or 3 toes with long nails. They can even turn their heads almost completely around in a circle, like an owl!
Day 5 (continued)

1. Where do sloths live?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. What can grow on a sloth’s fur?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

   a. Blend in with the plants
   b. Get food to eat
   c. Hide from hunters

4. What do sloths like to do?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

5. Why are sloths special? Give at least 1 reason.
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

6. Write a question that you have about the sloths. Use a question word like who, what, where, when or why.
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Think about your favourite animal. Draw a picture of your favourite animal and then list 3 facts about the animal.

Fact 1: ___________________________________
                        ___________________________________
                        ___________________________________

Fact 2: ___________________________________
                        ___________________________________
                        ___________________________________
                        ___________________________________

Fact 3: ___________________________________
                        ___________________________________
                        ___________________________________

Write 3 questions that someone could answer about your favourite animal by reading your facts.

Question 1: ___________________________________
                        ___________________________________
                        ___________________________________

Question 2: ___________________________________
                        ___________________________________
                        ___________________________________

Question 3: ___________________________________
                        ___________________________________