

Name _____

Subject-Verb Agreement

The subject and the verb in a sentence must work together, or **agree**.

To make most present tense verbs agree with singular nouns or *he, she, or it*, add *-s* or *-es*. If the subject is a plural noun or *I, you, we, or they*, the present tense verb does not end in *-s*.

Singular Subject Ant tugs at his belt. He watches Bear.

Plural Subject Animals talk in some stories. Ants and bears act like people.

Use *is* or *was* to agree with singular nouns. Use *are* or *were* to agree with plural nouns.

Singular Subject Bear is angry.

Plural Subject Ants are small and stubborn.

Directions Write *Yes* if the subject and the verb in the sentence agree. Write *No* if the subject and the verb do not agree.

1. Whone, the Changer, plant trees for forests. _____
2. He becomes tired of his work. _____
3. Bear's name is Chetwin. _____
4. Bears catches ants in rotten logs. _____
5. Some ants grows wings. _____
6. That anthill is very tall. _____
7. Thousands of ants lives there. _____

Directions Circle the verb that correctly completes each sentence.

8. I (like, likes) the story about Ant's waist.
9. An insect (flies, flies) from its nest.
10. Bears (sleep, sleeps) through the cold winter months.
11. A good story (keep, keeps) us interested.
12. Ants and bears (are, is) very different creatures.



Home Activity Your child learned about subject-verb agreement. Ask your child questions with *does* and *do*: *What does a cow say? What do chickens say?* Have your child show you how the verb in the answer changes when the subject is singular and plural.

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Directions Complete each comparison. Write a verb from the box on the first line and a noun phrase from the box on the second line. Make sure subjects and verbs agree.

Verbs	scream	glows	flicker	sinks	spreads
Noun Phrases	a silver dollar		a glowing coal		a cool blanket
	tiny candles		frightened ghosts		

- The sun _____ into the sea like _____.
- Night _____ across the land like _____.
- A full moon _____ like _____.
- Night birds _____ like _____.
- Stars _____ above the sleeping world like _____.

Directions Add a subject and a noun or noun phrase to complete each comparison. Make sure subjects and verbs agree. Write the new sentence.

6. ___ shake like ___.

7. ___ sings like ___.

8. ___ runs like ___.



Home Activity Your child learned how to use subject-verb agreement in writing. Have your child write about things he or she does every day, beginning each sentence with *I* (*I walk, I learn, I play*). Ask your child to rewrite each sentence beginning with *He* or *She* and show how the verb changes.

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Directions Mark the letter of the verb that completes each sentence.

- The Native Americans ___ this story.
A tells
B tell
C are
D telling
- Bear ___ very hungry.
A is
B are
C feel
D feeling
- He ___ to catch fish with his tail.
A try
B trys
C tries
D trying
- Bear ___ his tail in the icy water.
A dangle
B dangles
C drop
D hanging
- He ___ nothing.
A caught
B catch
C catches
D catches
- Bear's tail ___ stuck in the ice.
A are
B get
C gets
D be
- He ___ it off.
A pull
B take
C yank
D yanks
- The other animals ___ at Bear's stumpy tail.
A are
B laugh
C looks
D looking
- They ___ away when he chases them.
A is
B runs
C scampers
D run
- I ___ that story.
A love
B be
C likes
D loves



Home Activity Your child prepared for taking tests on subject-verb agreement. Have your child explain the rules he or she has learned about how verbs change when the subject is singular or plural. Ask your child to give you examples of these rules.

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Directions Write *Yes* if the subject and the verb in the sentence agree. Write *No* if the subject and the verb do not agree.

1. This story is interesting. _____
2. The Cherokees tells the story. _____
3. A Cherokee boy go to the mountains day after day. _____
4. His parents scold him. _____
5. "I gets more food in the mountains." _____
6. He grows long brown hair all over his body. _____
7. His parents needs food too. _____
8. "Maybe his stories is true." _____
9. Finally, all his relatives follow him to the mountains. _____
10. They turns into bears. _____

Directions Write the verb that correctly completes each sentence.

11. I (enjoys, enjoy) old stories from other cultures. _____
12. You (read, reads) such interesting things. _____
13. Animals (talk, talks), and trees are alive. _____
14. A bear (act, acts) just like a person. _____
15. I (wish, wishes) real life were like that. _____



Home Activity Your child reviewed subject-verb agreement. Read a story together. Ask your child to show you examples of subject-verb agreement in the story. Have him or her look for examples of plural and singular subjects and verbs.