Unit 4
Workbook
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This Workbook contains worksheets that accompany many of the lessons from the Teacher Guide for Unit 4. Each worksheet is identified by the lesson number in which it is used. Some of the worksheets in this book do not include written instructions for students because the instructions would have contained nondecodable words. The expectation is that teachers will explain these worksheets to students orally, using the guidelines in the Teacher Guide. Nondecodable instructions are also included along the side of each of these worksheets, and are only meant to be read aloud by a teacher or family member. The Workbook is a student component, which means each student should have a Workbook.
Dear Family Member,

Today our class started the Unit 4 of the Core Knowledge Language Arts program. The Reader for this unit is called *The Green Fern Zoo*. Your child will bring home stories you can read together about zoo keeper Vern and the different types of animals he cares for at the Green Fern Zoo. Remember that reading at home with your child is important for their success as a reader.

In addition, your child’s spelling words for this week include the days of the week. Students will practice writing the date, including the days of the week. All of the spelling words this week are Tricky Words. Tricky Words do not play by the rules, meaning there are spellings that do not sound the way students would expect them to. These words need to be memorized, so your child will benefit from practice reading and writing them.

1. Monday
2. Tuesday
3. Wednesday
4. Thursday
5. Friday
6. Saturday
7. Sunday
8. would
Directions: Have students trace and copy the digraph and words. Students should say the sounds while writing the letters.

er  er  er

er  er  er

her  her  her

Bert  Bert  Bert

perk  perk  perk
Print the words on the lines where they fit best.

1. fern

2. herd

3. perch
Directions: Have students write the words with the /r/ sound under the ‘red’ header and the words with the /er/ sound under the ‘her’ header.

|r/ as in red

rat

fer

rust

rope

clerk

room

|/er/ as in her

fern

rat

perch

rag

verb

term
Dear Family Member,

Your child has been taught to read words with the vowel digraph, or letter team, ‘er’ as in *her*. To practice this new spelling, ask your child to cut out the word cards below. In addition to the ‘er’ spelling, some of the words below are Tricky Words and previously taught spellings. Have your child read all of the words aloud, and arrange the cards to make phrases such “the herd” and “one fern.” You may also ask your child to copy the phrases onto a sheet of paper. Please keep the cards for future practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>the</th>
<th>all</th>
<th>big</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>herd</td>
<td>clerk</td>
<td>perch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>food</td>
<td>book</td>
<td>one</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pound</td>
<td>coin</td>
<td>hawk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Directions: Have students read each sentence and write the word from the word box that best fits the sentence.

her clerk round coin
verb paws scoops food

1. The plate is _____________.

2. The ____________ gave her a dime.

3. Dogs have _____________.

4. I would like three _____________.

Directions: Have students read each sentence and write the word from the word box that best fits the sentence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>her</th>
<th>clerk</th>
<th>round</th>
<th>coin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>verb</td>
<td>paws</td>
<td>scoops</td>
<td>food</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. I can cook a lot of ____________.

6. ____________ dad is at home.

7. I will flip a ____________.

8. Is this word a ____________?
Meet Vern

1. Where will Vern take you?
   - the shop
   - the Green Fern Zoo
   - the bus

2. What is Vern’s job?

Directions: Have students reread the story and answer the questions.
3. What could be some things with wings?

4. Name some things that you could see at the zoo.
Directions: Have students trace and copy the digraph and words. Students should say the sounds while writing the letters.

```
ar

ar  ar

ar

art  art

art

farm  farm

farm

yarn  yarn

yarn
```
Print the words on the lines where they fit best.

1. arm

2. car

3. star

4. yarn

5. cart
Dear Family Member,

Your child has been taught to read words with the vowel digraphs ‘er’ as in *her*, and ‘ar’ as in *car*. Ask your child to cut out the word cards. Have your child arrange the cards to make phrases or sentences. You may also ask your child to copy the phrases or sentences on the sheet of paper. Please keep the cards for future practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>verb</th>
<th>herd</th>
<th>perch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>the</td>
<td>march</td>
<td>one</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yard</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>farm</td>
<td>chart</td>
<td>fern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>this</td>
<td>big</td>
<td>is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stars</td>
<td>tree</td>
<td>bark</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Spelling Test

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

6. 

7. 

8. 

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Things That Swim

1. What is a trout?
   - a dog
   - a bug
   - a fish

2. What parts of a trout help it hide?
   - spots and marks
   - mouth and teeth
   - fins and scales
3. What big fish makes wee fish run and hide?
   - trout
   - reef shark
   - squid

Page_______

4. Why do reef sharks make their home close to reefs?

Page_______

5. What do reef sharks like to feed on?

Page_______
Meet Vern

My name is Vern, and I have the best job! My job is to take you kids in to see the Green Fern Zoo.

We will see things with wings and things with scales, things that bite and things that sting, things that creep and things that swim.

I have lots of fun facts and tales to share with you. So let’s see the zoo and have some fun!
Dear Family Member,

Your child’s spelling words for this week include the ‘er’, ‘ar’, and ‘or’ spellings that your child has been learning in this unit. Your child should practice reading and writing these words. The last spelling word is a Trickly Word. Trickly Words do not play by the rules, meaning there are spellings that do not sound the way students would expect them to. These words need to be memorized.

Spelling Words Lesson 6

1. sharp
2. fern
3. start
4. spoil
5. verb
6. shark
7. crawl
8. Tricky Word: because
Directions: Have students read the words in the box and write each word in the sentence where the word fits best.

1. There is not a __________________ in this lake.

2. The car needs __________________ in it.

3. That cat has sharp __________________ !

4. The flag has __________________ and stripes.

5. My mom had to ask us not to __________________ .
6. She must _________ up and not sleep!

7. I saw a _________ of deer in the woods.

8. I would like to see the Green _________ Zoo.

9. _________ at that big wave!

10. We look up at the stars and the _________ when it gets dark.
Directions: Have students match the words to their contracted form.
Directions: Have students fill in the blanks with the correct contraction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>can’t</th>
<th>let’s</th>
<th>here’s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>she’s</td>
<td>it’s</td>
<td>Bert’s</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. _________ sad.

2. _________ hot out.

3. _________ run to the park.

4. _________ a good pal.

5. _________ my class.

6. We _________ see the sharks.
Directions: Have students trace and copy the digraphs and words. Students should say the sounds while writing the letters.

- or - or
- or
- corn - corn
- corn
- fork - fork
- fork
- short - short
- short
In the box are six words. Print them on the lines where they fit best.

stork    fork    thorns

corn     shorts   cord
Dear Family Member,

Your child has been learning to read and write contractions. Work with your child to write each sentence with the contracted form of the words in parentheses. Extension: Use contractions orally with your child, pausing to discuss the formation of the contracted form.

1. glad we can have cake.
   (he is)

2. with her gran.
   (she is)

3. run to the park!
   (let us)

4. ride a bike.
   (can not)

5. the book!
   (here is)
Directions: Have students copy the word onto the left side of the paper, fold it in half, and then write the word from memory on the right side of the paper.

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. 
8. 
9. 
10.
Dear Family Member,

This is a story your child has probably read once, possibly several times, at school. Encourage your child to read the story to you and then talk about it together. The tricky parts in tricky words are underlined in gray. Please note that the multi-syllable words that students encounter in the Readers and Workbook will be divided between syllables with a dot. This dot serves as an early cue to assist students in chunking words, and will be omitted in later units.

Repeated oral reading is an important way to improve reading skills. It can be fun for your child to repeatedly read this story to a friend, relative, or even a pet.

**Things That Swim**

I hope you kids like things that swim, be·cause this is the room where we keep all the fish.

The fish here are trout. A trout is a fish that swims in cool lakes and creeks. You can see that they have lots of spots and marks. The spots and marks help the trout hide. They make the trout look a lot like the sand on the bed of a creek.
Here’s a big fish that makes all of the wee fish run and hide. This is a reef shark. It has that name because it likes to make its home close to a reef, where there are lots of fish.

You can see that the reef shark has fins and a set of gills on its side. You can not see them from here, but this shark has lots of sharp teeth in its mouth.

Would a reef shark bite you? Well, you are not the lunch that this shark would like best. A reef shark likes to feed on squid, crabs, and shrimp. But it would be smart not to get the reef shark mad at you all the same!
Chimps

1. Green Fern Zoo has ______ chimps.
   - one
   - five
   - ten

2. Who is Bess?
   - a chimp
   - Vern’s pal
   - a shark

3. What do chimps not like to munch on?
   - plants
   - seeds
   - rocks

Directions: Have students reread the story and answer the questions.
4. What will Bart have for lunch?

5. What will Max do for fun?

6. Why were Carl and Norm not pals last week?
Spelling Test

1. ______________________

2. ______________________

3. ______________________

4. ______________________

5. ______________________

6. ______________________

7. ______________________

8. ______________________
Mandrills

1. Is a male mandrill’s nose green?

2. What makes mandrills look and feel good?
3. What is the verb in, “We feed man·drills ants, grass·es, nuts, bark, plant shoots, and roots.”
   - man·drills
   - feed
   - bark

4. List 4 nouns that you found in “Man·drills.”

Directions: On a separate sheet of paper, have students illustrate one of the nouns from the story.
Dear Family Member,

This is a story your child has probably read once, possibly several times, at school. Encourage your child to read the story to you and then talk about it together. The tricky parts in Tricky Words are underlined in gray. Please note that the multi-syllable words are divided between syllables with a dot. This dot serves as a cue to assist students in chunking syllables, and will be omitted in later units.

Repeated oral reading is an important way to improve reading skills. It can be fun for your child to repeatedly read this story to a friend, relative, or even a pet.

Chimps

Next, let’s see the chimps. We have ten chimps here at the Green Fern Zoo. You can see them all out there if you look hard.

The one you see here is Bess. She has a snack in her mouth. Bess and the rest of the chimps like to munch on plants, nuts, and seeds.

Do you see that chimp with the stick? That’s Bart. Bart likes to have ants for lunch. To get the ants, he takes a stick and sticks it in an ant hill. Then he lifts it up
and licks off the ants. Yum, yum!

The chimp with the rope in his hand is Max. He’s just a babe. He was born in March. Bess is his mom.

Max is a lot of fun. He likes to swing on the rope and splash in the pool.

The two chimps up on the rocks are Carl and Norm. Carl is the one on the left. Carl and Norm are pals. But they were not pals last week.

Last week we gave them a branch from a fig tree for lunch. Norm took the branch and ran off with it. He ate all of the figs. Carl was mad at Norm all week.

But that was last week. This week the two of them are pals.
Dear Family Member,

Our class has begun reading and writing two-syllable words. The spelling words this week are two-syllable words which may be more challenging than the previous one-syllable words. Your child may find it helpful to practice writing and remembering the spelling words syllable by syllable.

Spelling Words Lesson 11

1. zipper
2. barking
3. perfume
4. morning
5. carpet
6. forest
7. border
8. Tricky Word: today
Mark the words that are said and print them on the lines.

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>arm·pit</td>
<td>artist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>sneez·ing</td>
<td>sniff·ing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>bas·kets</td>
<td>bask·ing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>nap·kin</td>
<td>napp·ing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>broil·ing</td>
<td>boil·ing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. twist·er  tweez·er

7. un·like  un·less

8. cor·ner  cor·net

9. win·ter  winn·er

10. ant·hill  ant·ler
Dear Family Member,

Your child has been taught to read words with the vowel digraphs ‘er’ as in *her*, ‘ar’ as in *car*, and ‘or’ as in *for*. Ask your child to cut out the word cards. Show the cards to your child and have your child read them. Then have your child read the word cards from previous take-home worksheets. Extension: Ask your child to copy the words onto a sheet of paper. Further extension: Read the words aloud and have your child write the words down, one sound at a time, paying attention to the vowel digraphs. Please keep the cards for future practice.

Dear Family Member,

Your child has been taught to read words with the vowel digraphs ‘er’ as in *her*, ‘ar’ as in *car*, and ‘or’ as in *for*. Ask your child to cut out the word cards. Show the cards to your child and have your child read them. Then have your child read the word cards from previous take-home worksheets. Extension: Ask your child to copy the words onto a sheet of paper. Further extension: Read the words aloud and have your child write the words down, one sound at a time, paying attention to the vowel digraphs. Please keep the cards for future practice.

herd  storm  farm
start  clerk  born
term  sports  park
short  parts  her
Directions: Have students read the sentences, circle the nouns, and underline the verbs with a squiggly line. Then have students write a few original sentences on the lines.

1. The pig snorts.
2. The dog barks.
3. The car stops.
4. The shark hunt·ed.
5. The man helped.
Things with Wings

1. The puffin makes his home ____________
   - in hot lands
   - up north
   - in the grass

Page ________

2. The puffin’s feet help him ____________
   - swim
   - sleep
   - get a snack

Page ________

Directions: Have students reread the story and answer the questions.
3. What can a puff•in use to get fish?
   - his feet
   - his eggs
   - his bill

Page __________

4. Puff•ins are born from ______________.
   The puff•in mom and ______________ sit on their egg. In the end, the __________ pops out of the shell.

5. What can a finch use to get food?
   ___________________________________________
Dear Family Member,

This is a story your child has probably read once, possibly several times, at school. Encourage your child to read the story to you and then talk about it together. The tricky parts in Tricky Words are underlined in gray. Please note that the multi-syllable words are divided between syllables with a dot. This dot serves as a cue to assist students in chunking syllables, and will be omitted in later units.

Repeated oral reading is an important way to improve reading skills. It can be fun for your child to repeatedly read this story to a friend, relative, or even a pet.

Mandrills

Here you can see two man·drills. Man·drills are a lot like chimps.

Do you like the red nose? The man·drill with the red nose is a male.

The man·drill on the left is groom·ing the male with the red nose. She is look·ing for ticks and bugs. Man·drills like groom·ing be·cause it makes them look good and feel good, too.
Look! One of the man·drills is yawning! You can see that he has long, sharp teeth. Those sharp teeth help him chop up his food.

Man·drills like a lot of foods. We feed our man·drills ants, grass, nuts, bark, plant shoots, and roots.

Man·drills have sacks in·side their cheeks. They can stuff food in the sacks and keep it there un·til they need a snack. Then they pop the food out and munch on it!
Directions: Have students underline the past-tense marker ‘ed’ in each verb. Then have students write the past-tense verbs that end in /ed/ under the /ed/ header, the verbs that end in /d/ under the /d/ header, and the verbs that end in /t/ under the /t/ header.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>/ed/</th>
<th>/d/</th>
<th>/t/</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>started</td>
<td>grinned</td>
<td>helped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parked</td>
<td>sounded</td>
<td>formed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>smiled</td>
<td>baked</td>
<td>lifted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>waved</td>
<td>hiked</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Family Member,

Your child has been learning about contractions, nouns, and verbs. For the first part of this worksheet, have your child circle the nouns in the sentence, and underline the verbs with a squiggly line. Review with your child that a noun is a person, place, or thing, and a verb is a word that shows action. Please note that the number of nouns in each sentence is noted in parentheses. For the second part, have your child draw a line to match the words with its contraction.

1. The cat naps in the yard. (2)
2. The cook made a cake. (2)
3. The kid rides a bike to the park. (3)
4. The tree shakes. (1)
5. A big dog barks. (1)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original</th>
<th>Contracted Form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>it is</td>
<td>there’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>there is</td>
<td>she’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>let us</td>
<td>it’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>here is</td>
<td>let’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>she is</td>
<td>here’s</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Directions: Have students match the words to their contracted forms.
Directions: For each word, have students circle and count the spellings, then write the number of sounds in the box and copy the word on the lines. For an extra challenge, ask students to write the number of syllables in the circle.

1. ham·ster
2. green
3. win·ter
4. slime
5. good
6. gar·lic
7. shout
Directions: For each word, have students circle and count the spellings, then write the number of sounds in the box and copy the word on the lines. For an extra challenge, ask students to write the number of syllables in the circle.

8. paws

9. pop·corn

10. camp·ers

11. mon·ster

12. woods

13. for·get

14. zipp·ers
Yes or No?

1. Is green slime a good food? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

2. Do garlic and a rose smell the same? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

3. Do cats have paws? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

4. Is a pumpkin black? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

5. Can a pig ride a bike? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

6. Is popcorn a good snack? ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
7. Do camp·ers sleep in tents?  

8. Is a verb a word?  

9. Would you like to win a prize?  

10. Can a dog tell time?  

11. Is it hot in the win·ter?  

12. Do coins have zipp·ers?
Big Cats

1. Name three things that a bobcat hunts.

2. Why should you not keep a bobcat in your home?
3. What helps a panther hunt?

4. A panther can be . . .

- green with stripes.
- black or tan, or can have spots.
- red with tan dots.
Spelling Test

1. __________________________
2. __________________________
3. __________________________
4. __________________________
5. __________________________
6. __________________________
7. __________________________
8. __________________________
Groundhogs

1. What do ground·hogs use their claws for?

2. Why do ground·hogs have to be on the look·out when they are not in their holes?
3. Where was Pepp•er when she got out from her pen?

4. What did Pepp•er stuff her•self with?
Dear Family Member,

The spelling words for this week are two-syllable words that contain the ‘er’, ‘ar’, and ‘or’ spelling. Your child can practice reading and writing these words, as well as clap the syllables for them. The last spelling word is a Tricky Word. Tricky Words do not play by the rules, meaning there are spellings that do not sound the way students would expect them to. These words need to be memorized.

Spelling Words Lesson 16

1. sounded
2. lifted
3. pointed
4. parked
5. waved
6. grinned
7. tripped
8. Tricky Word: have
The Reptile Room

1. What do *gar·ter* snakes feed on?

2. Why are *gar·ter* snakes harm·less for us?

Directions: Have students reread the story and answer the questions.
3. A ratt·ler has a patt·ern on his scales so that...

4. Why is a ratt·ler not harm·less for us?
1. To·day kids march in line.

2. Yes·ter·day kids marched in line.

3. To·morr·ow kids will march in line.

4. To·day the cat naps on the car·pet.

5. Yes·ter·day the cat napped on the car·pet.

6. To·morr·ow the cat will nap on the car·pet.

7. To·day the man bikes at the park.

8. Yes·ter·day the man biked at the park.

9. To·morr·ow the man will bike at the park.

Directions: For each sentence, have students circle the nouns and underline the verbs with a squiggly line.
Dear Family Member,

Your child has been practicing reading two-syllable words. Below are two sections from a story about reptiles at the Green Fern Zoo. Have your child read the story and fill in the blank with the correct word.

This is a __________________ snake. Gar·ter snakes feed on slugs, in·sects, and frogs. For those __________________, the gar·ter snake is a __________________. A gar·ter snake could bite you, but its bite would not make you sick. For us, a gar·ter snake is __________________.
This is a _________________. A ratt·ler is a des·ert ________________ that hunts for rats and rabb·its. He has a _____________ on his scales that helps him blend in and hide in the ________________ sands. When the ratt·ler is hidden, it is hard for rats and rabb·its to see him.
Dear Family Member,

This is a story your child has probably read once, possibly several times, at school. Encourage your child to read the story to you and then talk about it together. The tricky parts in Tricky Words are underlined in gray. Please note that the multi-syllable words are divided between syllables with a dot. This dot serves as a cue to assist students in chunking syllables, and will be omitted in later units.

Repeated oral reading is an important way to improve reading skills. It can be fun for your child to repeatedly read this story to a friend, relative, or even a pet.

Things With Wings

Next, let’s see some things with wings.

This is a puff·in. He makes his home up north, not too far from the North Pole.

Look at those cute feet! But they are not just cute. The puff·in’s feet help him swim.

Note, as well, his big bill. The puff·in can use his bill to get fish.
Puff·ins are born from eggs. The puff·in mom and dad sit on their egg. The mom sits. Then the dad sits. In the end, the chick pops out of the shell. The mom and dad take care of the chick un·til it can care for it·self. Look! That puff·in has fish in her bill! She will feed those fish to her chick.

In this next room, we have a finch. Un·like the puff·in, the finch makes a home in wood·lands. He can use his bill to snap up grass seeds for food.

I’m sad to tell you that the finch is gett·ing to be quite rare. We are proud to have five of them here at the Green Fern Zoo.
Directions: Have students underline the past-tense marker ‘ed’ in each verb. Then have students write the final sound(s) in each word in the slashes. Then have students write the past-tense verbs that end in /ed/ under the /ed/ header, the verbs that end in /d/ under the /d/ header, and the verbs that end in /t/ under the /t/ header.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>/ed/</th>
<th>/d/</th>
<th>/t/</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>started</td>
<td>grinned</td>
<td>helped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>seemed</td>
<td>snort·ed</td>
<td>wished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>marched</td>
<td>added</td>
<td>rubbed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Termites

1. What are termites?

2. What is inside a termite mound?
3. **What do ter·mites look like?**

4. **Why would a ter·mite munch on your home?**
Spelling Test

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.
In the box are six words. Print them on the lines where they fit best.

- garlic
- dinner
- cooler
- hammer
- jumper
- hornet
In the box are six words. Print them on the lines where they fit best.

blend·er  pop·corn  num·ber

car·pet  for·est  gar·den

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### Check the Draft Step by Step

1. Check that the name of the thing is there.

2. Check that you described what it looks like.

3. Check that you described the feel, sound, and taste of the thing.

4. Check that you ended with a fun fact or if you like the thing.

5. Aa, Bb, Cc

6. ? . !

7. Check that the words are spelled well.
River Otters

1. What do riv·er ott·ers like to do?

2. Which is NOT the riv·er ott·ers’ home?
   - nests on land
   - the riv·er
   - up in trees

3. What part helps riv·er ott·ers swim fast?
   - webbed paws
   - point·ed nose
   - sharp claws
4. What do riv·er ott·ers like for food?
Name of Critter: ________________________________

I will describe: ____________________________________________

What it looks like: __________________________________________
What it sounds like: ____________________________________________

What it feels like: ____________________________________________

Where is its home? ____________________________________________

What food would it like? ________________________________________
Name of Critter: ________________________________

I will describe: ________________________________________________________________

What it looks like: _____________________________________________________________
What it sounds like:

What it feels like:

Where is its home?

What food would it like?
Name of Critter: __________________________

I will describe: __________________________

What it looks like: ________________________
What it sounds like:

What it feels like:

Where is its home?

What food would it like?
Name of Critter: ________________________________

I will describe: ________________________________

What it looks like: ________________________________

Directions: Have students respond to the prompts, using the Reader as a resource.
What it sounds like:

What it feels like:

Where is its home?

What food would it like?
Directions: Have students respond to the prompts, using the Reader as a resource.

Name of Critter: ________________________________

I will describe: ____________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

What it looks like: __________________________________________________________
What it sounds like: ____________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

What it feels like: ____________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

Where is its home? ____________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

What food would it like? ______________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
Directions: Have students respond to the prompts, using the Reader as a resource.

Name of Critter: ____________________________

I will describe: ____________________________

What it looks like: ____________________________
What it sounds like: ________________________________

What it feels like: ________________________________

Where is its home? ________________________________

What food would it like? ____________________________
1. Yes·ter·day the dog ________ (lick)
   the food on the car·pet.

2. My pal ________ at us.
   (grin)

3. Fran lost her tem·per and
   ________.
   (yell)

4. She ________ wood in her
   back·yard.
   (chop)

5. I ________ a cake yes·ter·day
   (bake)
   for my class.

Directions: Have students write the verb in its past tense form.
Dear Family Member,

This is a story your child has probably read once, possibly several times, at school. Encourage your child to read the story to you and then talk about it together. The tricky parts in Tricky Words are underlined in gray. Please note that the multi-syllable words are divided between syllables with a dot. This dot serves as a cue to assist students in chunking syllables, and will be omitted in later units.

Repeated oral reading is an important way to improve reading skills. It can be fun for your child to repeatedly read this story to a friend, relative, or even a pet.

---

Big Cats

Do you like cats? If you do, look there in the grass. Do you see the cat?

That is not the sort of cat that you keep in your home and feed cat food. That is a bobcat.

Bobcats are good hunters. They hunt rabbits, rats, and sometimes deer and sheep.

That bobcat’s name is Robert, or Bob for short. Get it?
If you look up on that rock, you will see a cat that’s bigger than a bob-cat. It’s a pan-ther.

Pan-thers can have spots. They can be tan, too. Here at the Green Fern Zoo, we have two black pan-thers. The name of this one is Jet.

That’s Jet’s sister, Flash, up on the tree branch. Flash has strong legs that help her run fast. She has sharp teeth and sharp claws that help her hunt rabbits and deer. She can use her claws to scam-per up a tree if she needs to.

You can see that she is not all black like Jet. She has some spots.
Name of Critter:

I will describe ____________________________

Describe what it looks like, sounds like, and feels like:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Dear Family Member,

Your child has been learning about nouns and verbs. The dot in words shows that this is a two-syllable word. Please have your child read the sentences, then circle the nouns and underline the verbs with a squiggly line. You may ask your child to act out the action.

1. The dog barks.

2. Today my sister will take a nap.

3. Tomorrow the kid will sing a song.

4. Yesterday the cat licked her paws.

5. Tomorrow Gran will bake a cake.
6. To·day the man point·ed to the clouds.

7. Yes·ter·day my pal took a trip.

8. To·day the shark swims.

9. The kid grinned at us.

10. Yes·ter·day the ground·hog was stuffed with food.
Check the Draft Step by Step

Name of Partner: __________
Edited by: __________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Check?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Check that the name of the critter is there.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check that you described what it looks like.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Check that you described its home.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check that you described its food.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check that you listed a fun fact.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aa, Bb, Cc and ? . !</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check that the words are spelled well.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Dear Family Member,

Your child has been learning about compound words. Please have your child read the compound words in the box and place them in the correct sentence. Your child will practice making up their own silly compound words on the back of the worksheet.

bath·tub  pop·corn  gum·drop
back·pack  lunch·box

1. My snack is in my _________.

2. I like _______________ for a snack.

3. This _______________ is sweet!

4. I take a bath in the ___________.

5. The book is in my ______________.
Directions: Have students make up their own silly compound words. In the first box, they will draw a picture of the first part of the compound word, and in the second box, the picture of the second part of the compound word.

1. + =

2. + =

3. + =

4. + =

- dogcake -
Part I
1. The dog barks.
2. Today the shark swims.
3. Tomorrow the kid will sing.
4. Yesterday the cat walked.
5. Tomorrow Gran will bake.

Part II
it is there’s
there is she’s
let us it’s
here is let’s
she is here’s
Part III

To·day I bake.

Yes·ter·day I ____________ .

To·mor·row I will ____________ .

To·day you smile.

Yes·ter·day you ____________ .

To·mor·row you will ____________ .

To·day I hike.

Yes·ter·day I ____________ .

To·mor·row I will ____________ .

To·day she points.

Yes·ter·day she ____________ .

To·mor·row she will ____________ .
Amber the Bat

This is Am·ber. Am·ber looks a bit like a fox. But she has wings and swings from trees. In fact, Am·ber is a bat.

Am·ber needs a lot of room to glide back and forth be·cause she has a wing·span of five feet. In fact, bats like Am·ber are the bigg·est bats there are!

Am·ber makes her home here at Green Fern Zoo. She has all the room she needs at the zoo. Some bats like Am·ber make their homes in the trop·ics, where the sun shines and it is hot.
Bats like Am·ber feed on plant parts and poll·en. They can smell lots of things, so they use their nose to look for food. They use their wings to glide from plant to plant to gath·er their food. In fact, they can travel up to 40 miles to gath·er food!

Look at Am·ber here in the tree. Am·ber likes to do things up·side down. She hangs out up·side down. She sleeps up·side down. When she has food, she clings to the branch with her feet and will munch on her food up·side down! What can you do up·side down?
1. What is Am·ber?
   - a fox
   - a bat
   - a dog
   - a cat

2. Am·ber’s wings are ______ long.
   - three feet
   - three wing-spans
   - two feet
   - five feet
3. Where do bats like Am·ber make their homes?
   - up in the north
   - in the trop·ics
   - in the des·ert
   - in cool lakes

4. What do bats like Am·ber feed on?
   - fish
   - grubs and slugs
   - milk
   - plant parts and poll·en

5. What part do bats like Am·ber use to look for food?
   - nose
   - legs
   - teeth
   - fins
6. Bats like Am·ber can trav·el . . .
   o up to 10 miles to gath·er food
   o up to 40 miles to gath·er food
   o as far as three miles to gath·er food
   o as far as five feet to gath·er food

7. What things can Am·ber do up·side down?
   o sing a sweet song, sleep, and munch on food
   o hang out, trav·el, and sleep
   o hang out, sleep, and munch on food
   o just munch on food
8. It says, “Am·ber needs a lot of room to glide back and forth . . .”

Glide is a word for:

- swim
- travel
- hop
- sleep

9. Why would Am·ber need a lot of room to glide back and forth?

- be·cause there are lots of bats at the zoo
- be·cause she is one of the bigg·est bats there are
- be·cause there are lots of in·sects at the zoo
- be·cause there are trees at the zoo
Directions: Have students trace and copy the digraphs and words. Students should say the sounds while writing the letters.

- er
- er
- er
- herd
- herd
- ar
- ar
- ar
- barn
- barn
- or
- or
- or
- corn
- corn
er  er  er
herd
ar  ar  ar
barn
or  or  or
corn
Count the sounds in the words. Print the number of sounds in the boxes and print the words on the lines.

1. hammer
   - hammer

2. born
   -

3. barns
   -

4. darker
   -

5. cooler
   -

6. pepper
   -

7. river
   -

8. sharks
   -
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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<td>- - - - - - - -</td>
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<td>- - - - - - - -</td>
<td>- - - - - - - -</td>
<td>- - - - - - - -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Directions: Have students write the /r/-controlled vowel sound in each word in the slashes. Then have students write the words with the /er/ sound under the /er/ header and the words with the /ar/ sound under the /ar/ header.

/er/

her

hard

carpet

herd

darkness


/ar/

barn

better

lantern

arm

perfect
Directions: Have students write the /r/-controlled vowel sound in each word in the slashes. Then have students write the words with the /ar/ sound under the /ar/ header and the words with the /or/ sound under the /or/ header.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>bar</th>
<th>nar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>horn</td>
<td>or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parked</td>
<td>forks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yard</td>
<td>pop·corn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>formed</td>
<td>gar·den</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>har·vest</td>
<td>torch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

/ar/  

/or/
Directions: Have students cut out the word cards and place them on the matching words on Worksheet PP5.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>could</th>
<th>asked</th>
<th>number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hard</td>
<td>started</td>
<td>seemed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>short</td>
<td>horn</td>
<td>two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>liked</td>
<td>spelled</td>
<td>runners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>porch</td>
<td>cars</td>
<td>helped</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Directions: Have students read the word cards from Worksheet PP4 and place them on top of the matching words on this worksheet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>two</th>
<th>horn</th>
<th>short</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>could</td>
<td>number</td>
<td>asked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>started</td>
<td>hard</td>
<td>liked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>porch</td>
<td>spelled</td>
<td>runners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cars</td>
<td>helped</td>
<td>seemed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mark the words that are said and print them on the lines.

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>shorten</td>
<td>shorter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>garden</td>
<td>garlic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>snoring</td>
<td>snarling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>hornet</td>
<td>horses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>market</td>
<td>marker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>better</td>
<td>bitter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>fortress</td>
<td>forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>harvest</td>
<td>harmless</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>border</td>
<td>barter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>sharper</td>
<td>smarter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Print the words.

barn  barn  barn
barn  barn  barn
yard  yard  yard
yard  yard  yard
sharp  sharp  sharp
sharp  sharp  sharp
dark  dark  dark
dark  dark  dark
arm  arm  arm
arm  arm  arm
Print the words.

- **barn**
- **yard**
- **sharp**
- **dark**
- **arm**
Print the words.

horn
horn
horn
sport
sport
sport
north
north
north
short
short
short
thorn
thorn
Print the words.

horn

sport

north

short

thorn
Print the words.

herd           herd           herd
herd           herd           herd
perk           perk           perk
fern            fern            fern
verb           verb           verb
perch           perch           perch
perch           perch           perch

Unit 4 141
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Print the words.

- herd
- perk
- fern
- verb
- perch
Print the words on the lines where they fit best.

1. shark

2. hammer

3. hornet

4. zipper

5. stork
In the box are six words. Print them on the lines where they fit best.

shark   fork   hang·er

scarf   cake   horn
In the box are six words. Print them on the lines where they fit best.

- hor-net
- ham-ster
- hawk
- gar-lic
- cloud
- pop-corn
Directions: Have students copy the word onto the left side of the paper, fold it in half, and then write the word from memory on the right side of the paper.

1. __________________________ 1. __________________________
2. __________________________ 2. __________________________
3. __________________________ 3. __________________________
4. __________________________ 4. __________________________
5. __________________________ 5. __________________________
6. __________________________ 6. __________________________
7. __________________________ 7. __________________________
8. __________________________ 8. __________________________
9. __________________________ 9. __________________________
10. __________________________ 10. __________________________
Print the words.

today  today  
yesterday  yesterday  
tomorrow  tomorrow  
to  to  
too  too  
two  two  
here  here  
there  there  
said  said  
says  says
Print the words.

today

yesterday

tomorrow

to

too

two

here

there

said

says
Mark the words that are said.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>big storm        big step</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>af·ter class     af·ter dark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>strong legs      strong arms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>could not run    should not run</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>boiled eggs      soft eggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>a red car·pet    a red car</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>coiled up snake  coiled up rope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>plant a gar·den  keep a gar·den</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>use a fork       use a broom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>far·ther north   far·ther south</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fill in the ______ with the words that are in the box.

- out·side
- sing·ing
- barking
- car·pet
- book·case
- for·est

1. Jen went outside to the yard.

2. Kate set the books on the
   ____________________________
   ____________________________.

3. Brent was ________________ a song.

4. There are lots of trees in a
   ____________________________
   ____________________________.

5. The dog was ___________all morn·ing.

6. There is a red __________ in this room.
Fill in the _______ with the words that are in the box.

fast·er  jump·ing
ant·lers  lunch·time
tem·per  tool·box

1. Ben likes _______________ on the bed.

2. Dad got his _______________ so he could fix the pipe.

3. Trish is fast, but Beth is _______________.

4. Mom lost her _______________ and yelled at the dog.

5. The deer has sharp _______________.

6. Is it _______________ yet?
Fill in the ______ with the words that are in the box.

- blisters - parking
- mattress - licked
- sandwich - Firemen

1. **After** the hike I had **blisters** on my feet.

   

2. Fran ate her ______________________.

   

3. Dad found a ______________________ spot for the car.

   

4. ______________________ ride on a red truck.

   

5. I have a soft ______________________ on my bed.

   

6. The man was ____________ by a dog.
Fill in the ______ with the words that are in the box.

melt·ed  muff·ins
pop·corn  nos·trils
art·ist  sev·en

1. The flame ____________ the wax.
2. Can you bake ____________ for me?
3. An ____________ makes art.
4. Af·ter six we count to ____________.
5. Is it fun to pop ____________?
6. Your nose has two ____________.
Yes or no? Print yes or no on the lines.

1. Do kids have a bed-time?  

2. Are your bones soft?  

3. Do artists use brushes?  

4. Can a back-yard have grass?  

5. Should you make a camp-fire inside?  

6. Can children drive cars?  

7. Do kittens have teeth?  

8. Could a plant sip a milk-shake?
Yes or no? Print yes or no on the lines.

1. **Should** you drop trash on the ground? ____________

2. **Do some parks** have slides? ____________

3. **Can you bake a cake in a round pan?** ____________

4. **Is a trip to the dentist** fun? ____________

5. **Can you hike outside in the summer?** ____________

6. **Would a pet fish** like to sleep in a bed? ____________

7. **Are piglets** cute? ____________

8. **Is seven** a number? ____________
Dear Family Member,

This is a story your child has probably read once, possibly several times, at school. Encourage your child to read the story to you and then talk about it together. The tricky parts in Tricky Words are underlined in gray. Please note that the multi-syllable words are divided between syllables with a dot. This dot serves as a cue to assist students in chunking syllables, and will be omitted in later units.

Repeated oral reading is an important way to improve reading skills. It can be fun for your child to repeatedly read this story to a friend, relative, or even a pet.

Mandrills

Here you can see two man·drills. Man·drills are a lot like chimps.

Do you like the red nose? The man·drill with the red nose is a male.

The man·drill on the left is groom·ing the male with the red nose. She is look·ing for ticks and bugs. Man·drills like groom·ing be·cause it makes them look good and feel good, too.
Look! One of the man·drills is yawn·ing! You can see that he has long, sharp teeth. Those sharp teeth help him chop up his food.

Man·drills like a lot of foods. We feed our man·drills ants, grass, nuts, bark, plant shoots, and roots.

Man·drills have sacks in·side of their cheeks. They can stuff food in the sacks and keep it there un·til they need a snack. Then they pop the food out and munch on it!
Dear Family Member,

This is a story your child has probably read once, possibly several times, at school. Encourage your child to read the story to you and then talk about it together. The tricky parts in Tricky Words are underlined in gray. Please note that the multi-syllable words are divided between syllables with a dot. This dot serves as a cue to assist students in chunking syllables, and will be omitted in later units.

Repeated oral reading is an important way to improve reading skills. It can be fun for your child to repeatedly read this story to a friend, relative, or even a pet.

**Groundhogs**

Here you can see a ground-hog.

Ground-hogs have **sharp** claws that help them dig holes in the ground. They spend a lot of time **down** in those **dark** holes.

Ground-hogs like to feed on grass and plants. But when they run out of their holes to get food, they have to be on the **look-out**. Some **critters**, like **bob-cats** and snakes, like to dine on ground-hogs. This ground-hog here is sitt-ing up to see if there is a snake **or** a **bob-cat** close by.
This ground-hog is named Pepper. We feed her grass, tree bark, and insects, but the food that she likes best is corn. We found that out yesterday morning when she got out from her pen.

We found her in the petting zoo. She ate a lot of the corn that was there for the ducks and hens.
Dear Family Member,

This is a story your child has probably read once, possibly several times, at school. Encourage your child to read the story to you and then talk about it together. The tricky parts in Tricky Words are underlined in gray. Please note that the multi-syllable words are divided between syllables with a dot. This dot serves as a cue to assist students in chunking syllables, and will be omitted in later units.

Repeated oral reading is an important way to improve reading skills. It can be fun for your child to repeatedly read this story to a friend, relative, or even a pet.

**Termites**

What do you kids like to have for lunch? Hot dogs? Chicken nuggets?

What if I gave you a lump of wood or a big tree stump for lunch? Would you like that?

Well, if you were a **ter**mite, you **would** like it. **Ter**mites are **insects** that like to munch on wood.

See this big spike sticking up from the ground? It looks **sort** of like a rock, but it is a **ter**mite mound. If you **could** look in-side, you **would** see lots of **ter**mites.
If you would like to see what ter·mites look like, take a peek in this box.

As you can see, ter·mites look a lot like ants. They have six legs like ants. A ter·mite mound has a queen who makes eggs, just like in an ant·hill. Here you can see that the ter·mite queen is much bigger than the rest of the ter·mites.

Would a ter·mite munch on your home? It would if your home is made of wood. The ter·mites from a big mound could have your liv·ing room for lunch and your bed·room for din·ner!
The Ostrich

1. The os-trich at the Green Fern Zoo tips the scales at . . .
   - three hun-dred pounds.
   - two pounds.
   - two hun-dred pounds.

2. Can an os-trich run fast?

Directions: Have students reread the story and answer the questions.
Directions: Have students write about the animal in the picture or copy their favorite sentences from the story that tell something about the animal.
Deer

1. Was Hope born in the zoo?

2. What happened to Hope’s leg?
Directions: Have students write about the animal in the picture or copy their favorite sentences from the story that tell something about the animal.
The Petting Zoo

1. What is the rabbit’s name?

2. What scares the chickens?
3. Which crit·er from the petting zoo do you like best? Why?
Cut out the cards.
Directions: Have students underline the past-tense marker ‘ed’ in each word. Then have the student write the final sound(s) in each word in the slashes. Then have the student write the past-tense verbs that end in /ed/ under the /ed/ header, the verbs that end in /d/ under the /d/ header, and the verbs that end in /t/ under the /t/ header.

- started /ed/
- grinned /d/
- helped /t/
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