Name It Right

Sort nouns that name any person, place, or thing from nouns that name a special one.

2.L.GC.1.9 "Grammar: Use common and proper nouns. (Master)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

COMMON NOUN

A common noun names any person, animal, or thing. It usually does not begin with a capital letter.

river

PROPER NOUN

A proper noun names a special person, place, animal, or thing. It begins with a capital letter.

Canada

1 SORT

8 items

Circle COMMON or PROPER for each noun, then pick two items and explain how you knew where they belong.

1.	dog	COMMON PROPER
2.	Maya	COMMON PROPER
3.	city	COMMON PROPER
4.	teacher	COMMON PROPER
5.	Lake Erie	COMMON PROPER
6.	book	COMMON PROPER
7.	Friday	COMMON PROPER
8.	school	COMMON PROPER

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new common noun and one new proper noun.

COMMON _____

PROPER _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence with a common noun and a proper noun. Capitalize the proper noun.

ANSWER KEY

Name It Right

GRADE 2 · 2.L.GC.1.9

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	dog	**COMMON**	Names any dog, not a special dog.
2	Maya	**PROPER**	Names a specific person and begins with a capital letter.
3	city	**COMMON**	Names any city, not a specific city.
4	teacher	**COMMON**	Names any teacher, not a specific teacher.
5	Lake Erie	**PROPER**	Names a specific lake and uses capital letters.
6	book	**COMMON**	Names any book, not a specific book.
7	Friday	**PROPER**	Names a specific day of the week and begins with a capital letter.
8	school	**COMMON**	Names any school, not a specific school.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **COMMON**: bicycle
- **PROPER**: Ms. Rivera

Challenge: My friend Ava has a rabbit.

For Part 2, accept explanations that say a common noun names any person, place, animal, or thing, while a proper noun names a special one and begins with a capital letter. Challenge answers will vary, but each should include both noun types and a capitalized proper noun.