Verb Match Detectives

Look closely at the subject and verb.

5.L.GC.2.c "Use correct subject-verb agreement to consistently achieve clarity in a variety of sentences. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

THEY MATCH

The subject and verb agree in number. A singular subject needs a singular verb, and a plural subject needs a plural verb.

The singer performs nightly.

NEEDS A FIX

The subject and verb do not agree in number. Change the verb so it matches the subject.

The musicians performs nightly.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle MATCH or FIX for each sentence, then choose two items and explain how the subject and verb helped you decide.

1. The stack of books sits on the desk. MATCH FIX
2. The children play outside. MATCH FIX
3. My cousin and I walks to school. MATCH FIX
4. Each player brings a water bottle. MATCH FIX
5. The basket of apples are heavy. MATCH FIX
6. The windows in the hallway needs cleaning. MATCH FIX
7. Our science team plans the experiment. MATCH FIX
8. The pack of wolves moves through the forest. MATCH FIX

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 MATCH sentence and one new FIX sentence.

MATCH _____

FIX _____

CHALLENGE

Write a correct sentence with a phrase between the subject and verb. Underline the subject and circle the verb.

ANSWER KEY # Verb Match Detectives

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The stack of books sits on the desk.	**MATCH**	The subject, stack, is singular, so sits is correct.
2	The children play outside.	**MATCH**	The subject, children, is plural, so play is correct.
3	My cousin and I walks to school.	**FIX**	The compound subject is plural, so the verb should be walk.
4	Each player brings a water bottle.	**MATCH**	Each is singular, so brings is correct.
5	The basket of apples are heavy.	**FIX**	The subject, basket, is singular, so the verb should be is.
6	The windows in the hallway needs cleaning.	**FIX**	The subject, windows, is plural, so the verb should be need.
7	Our science team plans the experiment.	**MATCH**	The subject, team, is singular, so plans is correct.
8	The pack of wolves moves through the forest.	**MATCH**	The subject, pack, is singular, so moves is correct.

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)

- **MATCH**: A rainbow appears after the storm.
- **FIX**: The hikers climbs up the hill.

Challenge: The _collection_ of rare coins (belongs) in the display case.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. For Part 2, students should identify the true subject and explain whether the verb is singular or plural.