Noun Detective

Sort the bold nouns, then use your own.

3.W.7.a "Nouns/Pronouns – Writing sentences using abstract nouns (e.g., hope, thought)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

ABSTRACT NOUN

An abstract noun names a feeling, idea, quality, or state. You cannot see, hear, smell, taste, or touch it.

Waiting takes **patience**.

CONCRETE NOUN

A concrete noun names a person, place, or thing you can see, hear, smell, taste, or touch.

A **lantern** glowed at dusk.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle ABSTRACT or CONCRETE for the bold noun in each sentence, then choose two items and explain how you knew.

1. His **honesty** mattered. ABSTRACT CONCRETE
2. A **puppy** barked. ABSTRACT CONCRETE
3. The **bell** rang. ABSTRACT CONCRETE
4. We felt **fear**. ABSTRACT CONCRETE
5. She showed **bravery**. ABSTRACT CONCRETE
6. The **apple** fell. ABSTRACT CONCRETE
7. Their **friendship** grew. ABSTRACT CONCRETE
8. Her **curiosity** grew. ABSTRACT CONCRETE

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 two new sentences, one with an abstract noun and one with a concrete noun; underline the noun in each.

ABSTRACT _____

CONCRETE _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence with both an abstract noun and a concrete noun; underline both nouns.

ANSWER KEY

Noun Detective

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	His **honesty** mattered.	**ABSTRACT**	Honesty is a quality that cannot be sensed.
2	A **puppy** barked.	**CONCRETE**	A puppy is an animal that can be seen, heard, and touched.
3	The **bell** rang.	**CONCRETE**	A bell is a thing that can be seen, heard, and touched.
4	We felt **fear**.	**ABSTRACT**	Fear is a feeling, not something sensed with the five senses.
5	She showed **bravery**.	**ABSTRACT**	Bravery is a quality that cannot be sensed.
6	The **apple** fell.	**CONCRETE**	An apple is a thing that can be seen, smelled, tasted, and touched.
7	Their **friendship** grew.	**ABSTRACT**	Friendship is a relationship, not something sensed with the five senses.
8	Her **curiosity** grew.	**ABSTRACT**	Curiosity is a quality that cannot be sensed.

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)

- **ABSTRACT**: Her excitement grew.
- **CONCRETE**: The kite soared.

Challenge: The artist painted with confidence.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify what the bold noun names and whether it can be sensed. For example, honesty is a quality that cannot be touched, while a bell can be seen and heard.