# Title Case Detectives

Sort book titles by their capital letters.

**L.3.2** "When writing: Capitalize appropriate words in titles. Use commas in addresses. Use commas and quotation marks in dialogue. Use possessives. Use conventional spelling for high-frequency words where suffixes are added to base words..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

**RIGHT CAPITALS**

Capitalize the first and last words of a title and important words in between. Keep short connecting words lowercase in the middle.

Happy Crabs by Lanterns

**WRONG CAPITALS**

A word is missing a capital letter it needs, or a short connecting word has a capital letter it should not have.

Silver fish Swim

## 1 SORT

8 items

For each book title, circle RIGHT or WRONG, then pick two item numbers and explain how you knew where they belong.

**1.** The Secret of the Pond — RIGHT / WRONG

**2.** Birds on the Roof — RIGHT / WRONG

**3.** The Fox And the Map — RIGHT / WRONG

**4.** A Small House on the hill — RIGHT / WRONG

**5.** Rainy Days at School — RIGHT / WRONG

**6.** the Mystery of Snow — RIGHT / WRONG

**7.** The Sun and the Rain — RIGHT / WRONG

**8.** A Mouse in the Garden — RIGHT / WRONG

## 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 book title with RIGHT capitals and one with WRONG capitals.

**RIGHT** _____

**WRONG** _____

**CHALLENGE**

Fix every capital letter mistake in this book title, then explain two of your changes: a dragon in the valley

**ANSWER KEY**

# Title Case Detectives

**GRADE 3 · L.3.2**

## PART 1 · SORT

| # | ITEM | CATEGORY | WHY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | The Secret of the Pond | **RIGHT** | The first, last, and important middle words are capitalized; of and the stay lowercase. |
| 2 | Birds on the Roof | **RIGHT** | The first and last words are capitalized; on and the stay lowercase. |
| 3 | The Fox And the Map | **WRONG** | And is a short connecting word in the middle, so it should be and. |
| 4 | A Small House on the hill | **WRONG** | The last word should be Hill. |
| 5 | Rainy Days at School | **RIGHT** | Rainy, Days, and School are capitalized; at stays lowercase. |
| 6 | the Mystery of Snow | **WRONG** | The first word should be The. |
| 7 | The Sun and the Rain | **RIGHT** | The first and last words and Sun are capitalized; and and the stay lowercase. |
| 8 | A Mouse in the Garden | **RIGHT** | The first, last, and important middle words are capitalized; in and the stay lowercase. |

## 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)

- **RIGHT**: Brave Turtles by Moonlight
- **WRONG**: Tiny frogs Jump

**Challenge:** A Dragon in the Valley. I capitalized A because it starts the title. I capitalized Dragon because it is an important word.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify a first or last word, an important middle word, or a short connecting word. For item 3, change And to and; for item 4, change hill to Hill; for item 6, change the to The.