Verb Detective

Find out what each verb does.

2.W.7.b.II "Understanding the functions of different types of verbs (e.g., action, linking) in sentences."

NAME _____ DATE _____

ACTION VERB

An action verb tells what someone or something does.

Kittens **pounce**.

LINKING VERB

A linking verb connects someone or something to a word that describes it.

I **am** cheerful.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle ACTION or LINKING for each bold verb, then in Part 2 write two item numbers and explain each choice.

1. A rabbit **digs**. ACTION LINKING

2. The pond **is** deep. ACTION LINKING

3. My hands **are** cold. ACTION LINKING

4. Sam **skips**. ACTION LINKING

5. The baby **claps**. ACTION LINKING

6. Our dog **runs**. ACTION LINKING

7. The cake **was** sweet. ACTION LINKING

8. Those leaves **are** yellow. ACTION LINKING

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 sentence with an action verb and one new sentence with a linking verb. Underline each verb.

ACTION _____

LINKING _____

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences about the same person. Use an action verb in one sentence and a linking verb in the other. Underline both verbs.

ANSWER KEY # Verb Detective

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	A rabbit **digs**.	**ACTION**	Digs tells what the rabbit does.
2	The pond **is** deep.	**LINKING**	Is links pond to deep.
3	My hands **are** cold.	**LINKING**	Are links hands to cold.
4	Sam **skips**.	**ACTION**	Skips tells what Sam does.
5	The baby **claps**.	**ACTION**	Claps tells what the baby does.
6	Our dog **runs**.	**ACTION**	Runs tells what the dog does.
7	The cake **was** sweet.	**LINKING**	Was links cake to sweet.
8	Those leaves **are** yellow.	**LINKING**	Are links leaves to yellow.

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)

- **ACTION**: Bees buzz.
- **LINKING**: My coat is warm.

Challenge: Tara jumps. Tara is brave.

For Part 2, a student might explain that item 2 links pond to deep and item 4 tells what Sam does. Accept other explanations that correctly describe each verb's job.