Capital Clues

Sort day and month names from ordinary things.

2.W.8.a "Capitalization – Capitalizing greetings, months and days of the week, titles and initials in names, and proper nouns, including holidays and geographic names."

NAME _____ DATE _____

NEEDS A CAPITAL

Names of days and months begin with a capital letter, even when they appear in the middle of a sentence.

Sunday

STAYS LOWERCASE

Words for ordinary things begin with a lowercase letter, unless they start a sentence.

flower

1 SORT

8 items

For each word, circle CAPITAL or LOWERCASE to show how it should begin.

1.	monday	CAPITAL LOWERCASE
2.	july	CAPITAL LOWERCASE
3.	pencil	CAPITAL LOWERCASE
4.	friday	CAPITAL LOWERCASE
5.	basket	CAPITAL LOWERCASE
6.	window	CAPITAL LOWERCASE
7.	october	CAPITAL LOWERCASE
8.	garden	CAPITAL LOWERCASE

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick one item from each group and explain how you knew where each belongs.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new day or month name and one new ordinary thing word. Use the correct capital letters.

CAPITAL _____

LOWERCASE _____

CHALLENGE

Write a sentence with a day name and an ordinary thing word. Capitalize each word correctly.

ANSWER KEY

Capital Clues

GRADE 2 · 2.W.8.a

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	monday	**CAPITAL**	Monday is the name of a day.
2	july	**CAPITAL**	July is the name of a month.
3	pencil	**LOWERCASE**	Pencil is an ordinary thing word.
4	friday	**CAPITAL**	Friday is the name of a day.
5	basket	**LOWERCASE**	Basket is an ordinary thing word.
6	window	**LOWERCASE**	Window is an ordinary thing word.
7	october	**CAPITAL**	October is the name of a month.
8	garden	**LOWERCASE**	Garden is an ordinary thing word.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Pick one item from each group and explain how you knew where each belongs.
Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **CAPITAL**: Tuesday
- **LOWERCASE**: spoon

Challenge: On Wednesday, I carried a backpack.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify one day or month name and one ordinary thing word. For example, monday needs a capital because it names a day, while pencil stays lowercase because it names an ordinary thing.