Title Case Detectives

Sort book titles by their capital letters.

3.W.8.a "Capitalization – Capitalizing appropriate words in titles, historical periods, company names, product names, and special events."

NAME _____ DATE _____

RIGHT CAPITALS

Capitalize the first word and important words in a book title. Keep short words such as *and* or *of* lowercase unless they come first.

Bright Beetles

NEEDS A FIX

Choose this group if a word needs a capital or a short word in the middle has a capital it does not need.

Quiet foxes

1 SORT

8 items

Circle RIGHT or FIX for each book title, then choose one from each group and explain in Part 2 how you knew.

1. *the Cave of Echoes* — RIGHT FIX
2. *Tall Trees Tell Tales* — RIGHT FIX
3. *My Dog and the Moon* — RIGHT FIX
4. *Lost in The Desert* — RIGHT FIX
5. *A Ship on the Sea* — RIGHT FIX
6. *The Hidden garden* — RIGHT FIX
7. *Silver Stars Shine* — RIGHT FIX
8. *Finding the Red Shell* — RIGHT FIX

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Choose one from each group and explain in Part 2 how you knew.

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 new book title that needs a FIX.

RIGHT _____

FIX _____

CHALLENGE

Rewrite your FIX title with the right capitals, and name the word or words you changed.

ANSWER KEY

Title Case Detectives

GRADE 3 · 3.W.8.a

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	*the Cave of Echoes*	**FIX**	The first word, The, needs a capital.
2	*Tall Trees Tell Tales*	**RIGHT**	The first word and all important words are capitalized.
3	*My Dog and the Moon*	**RIGHT**	The first and important words are capitalized; and and the are lowercase.
4	*Lost in The Desert*	**FIX**	The should be lowercase in the middle of this title.
5	*A Ship on the Sea*	**RIGHT**	The first and important words are capitalized; on and the are lowercase.
6	*The Hidden garden*	**FIX**	Garden is an important word and needs a capital.
7	*Silver Stars Shine*	**RIGHT**	The first word and all important words are capitalized.
8	*Finding the Red Shell*	**RIGHT**	The first and important words are capitalized; the is lowercase.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Choose one from each group and explain in Part 2 how you knew.
Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **RIGHT**: *The Blue Kite*
- **FIX**: *A Walk in the forest*

Challenge: *A Walk in the Forest*. I changed forest to Forest.

For Part 2, accept a correct reason for one item from each group. For example, item 1 needs FIX because its first word is lowercase, while item 3 is RIGHT because its first and important words have capitals.