# Word Helper Hunt

Choose the best place to look up a word.

**2L4.e** "Use glossaries and beginning dictionaries to determine or clarify the meaning of words and phrases."

NAME _____ DATE _____

### USE A GLOSSARY

Use a glossary for special words in the book you are reading. A glossary is often at the back of the book.

In a book about rocks, look in the glossary to learn *mineral*.

### USE A DICTIONARY

Use a dictionary for a word you want to understand that is not from one special book. A dictionary has many words in alphabetical order.

Use a dictionary to learn what *happy* means.

## 1 SORT

8 items

Circle GLOSSARY or DICTIONARY for each item, then choose two items and tell how you knew.

**1.** You are reading a book about weather and need to know what *forecast* means. GLOSSARY DICTIONARY

**2.** You are reading a book about oceans and need to know what *current* means. GLOSSARY DICTIONARY

**3.** You want to know what *tiny* means in this sentence: "The kitten was tiny." GLOSSARY DICTIONARY

**4.** You are reading a book about plants and need to know what *germinate* means. GLOSSARY DICTIONARY

**5.** You want to check the meaning of *pocket*. GLOSSARY DICTIONARY

**6.** You hear the word *whisper* and want to know what it means. GLOSSARY DICTIONARY

**7.** You want to know what *gather* means in this sentence: "We gather leaves." **GLOSSARY** **DICTIONARY**

**8.** You are reading a book about space and need to know what *orbit* means. **GLOSSARY** **DICTIONARY**

## 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 GLOSSARY example and one new DICTIONARY example.

**GLOSSARY** _____

**DICTIONARY** _____

**CHALLENGE**

Write one sentence that tells why a glossary is the best choice for a word in a book about volcanoes.

**Mini volcano glossary** (written for this worksheet): **lava**: melted rock at Earth's surface; **magma**: melted rock below Earth's surface. Use this glossary to complete: "Below Earth's surface, melted rock is called ___." Tell which entry helped you.

**ANSWER KEY**

# Word Helper Hunt



## PART 1 · SORT

| # | ITEM | CATEGORY | WHY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | You are reading a book about weather and need to know what *forecast* means. | **GLOSSARY** | Forecast is a special word from the weather book. |
| 2 | You are reading a book about oceans and need to know what *current* means. | **GLOSSARY** | Current is a special word from the oceans book. |
| 3 | You want to know what *tiny* means in this sentence: "The kitten was tiny." | **DICTIONARY** | Tiny is a word to look up in a general dictionary. |
| 4 | You are reading a book about plants and need to know what *germinate* means. | **GLOSSARY** | Germinate is a special word from the plants book. |
| 5 | You want to check the meaning of *pocket*. | **DICTIONARY** | Pocket is a word to look up in a general dictionary. |
| 6 | You hear the word *whisper* and want to know what it means. | **DICTIONARY** | Whisper is a word to look up in a general dictionary. |
| 7 | You want to know what *gather* means in this sentence: "We gather leaves." | **DICTIONARY** | Gather is a word to look up in a general dictionary. |
| 8 | You are reading a book about space and need to know what *orbit* means. | **GLOSSARY** | Orbit is a special word from the space book. |

## 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)**

- **GLOSSARY**: In a book about insects, I need to know what *larva* means.
- **DICTIONARY**: I want to know what *jump* means.

**Challenge:** I would use the glossary to learn *magma* because it lists special words from the volcano book.

**Reference consultation:** The missing word is magma. The magma entry says the melted rock is below Earth's surface.

Items 1, 2, 4, and 8 are GLOSSARY. Items 3, 5, 6, and 7 are DICTIONARY. For Part 2, students should explain that a glossary is for special words in the book they are reading, while a dictionary is for general word meanings. Check that the learner actually consults the supplied entry and gives the source-supported result, rather than only naming a kind of reference. Allow reading and recording support as needed; keep the meaning choice with the learner.