Name It Right

Sort common nouns and proper nouns.

2.11.D.iii "singular, plural, common, and proper nouns;"

NAME _____ DATE _____

COMMON NOUN

A common noun names any person, place, animal, or thing. It usually does not begin with a capital letter.

teacher

PROPER NOUN

A proper noun names a special person, place, animal, or thing. It begins with a capital letter.

Maya

1 SORT

8 items

Read each noun and circle COMMON or PROPER.

1.	river	COMMON PROPER
2.	Texas	COMMON PROPER
3.	Monday	COMMON PROPER
4.	bicycle	COMMON PROPER
5.	library	COMMON PROPER
6.	Dr. Chen	COMMON PROPER
7.	kitten	COMMON PROPER
8.	Mount Rainier	COMMON PROPER

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 common noun and one new proper noun.

COMMON _____

PROPER _____

CHALLENGE

Pick two items from the sort, one COMMON and one PROPER. Write a sentence that tells how you knew which one is which. Then check this draft: "Jamal sees two kitten in texas." Correct the nouns that need a change and explain each correction. Identify one noun to keep and explain why.

ANSWER KEY # Name It Right

GRADE 2 · TEKS 2.11.D.iii

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	river	**COMMON**	It names any river, not one special river.
2	Texas	**PROPER**	It names one special state and begins with a capital letter.
3	Monday	**PROPER**	It names a special day and begins with a capital letter.
4	bicycle	**COMMON**	It names any bicycle.
5	library	**COMMON**	It names any library.
6	Dr. Chen	**PROPER**	It names one special person and begins with capital letters.
7	kitten	**COMMON**	It names any kitten.
8	Mount Rainier	**PROPER**	It names one special mountain and begins with capital letters.

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)

- **COMMON**: garden
- **PROPER**: Jamal

Challenge: River is a common noun because it can name any river. Texas is a proper noun because it names one special state. Corrected draft: Jamal sees two kittens in Texas. Kittens is plural after two; Texas is a proper place name and needs a capital. Keep Jamal because the person's name is already capitalized.

For Part 2, accept explanations that say a common noun names any person, place, animal, or thing, while a proper noun names a special one and begins with a capital letter. For the challenge, students should choose one item from each category and explain both choices. For the draft check, require kittens and Texas, with noun number/capitalization reasons and a justified no-change decision for Jamal. A supported dictated explanation is acceptable.