Name It Right

Sort general names and special names.

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

NAME _____ DATE _____

COMMON NOUN

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

river

PROPER NOUN

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

Lake Erie

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1, circle COMMON or PROPER for each noun, then for Part 2, choose two items and explain how you knew where each one belongs.

1.	teacher	COMMON PROPER
2.	Marcus	COMMON PROPER
3.	Mount Fuji	COMMON PROPER
4.	playground	COMMON PROPER
5.	kittens	COMMON PROPER
6.	July	COMMON PROPER
7.	bicycles	COMMON PROPER
8.	library	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

Write one sentence with a common noun and a proper noun. Capitalize the proper noun. Then check this draft: “maya borrowed two Book from the library.” Keep or correct each noun’s capitalization and number. Explain one decision.

ANSWER KEY # Name It Right

GRADE 4 · TEKS 4.11.D.iii

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	teacher	**COMMON**	It names any teacher, not one specific teacher.
2	Marcus	**PROPER**	It names one specific person and begins with a capital letter.
3	Mount Fuji	**PROPER**	It names one specific mountain and begins with capital letters.
4	playground	**COMMON**	It names any playground, not one specific playground.
5	kittens	**COMMON**	It names any kittens, not specific kittens.
6	July	**PROPER**	It is the name of a specific month and begins with a capital letter.
7	bicycles	**COMMON**	It names any bicycles, not specific bicycles.
8	library	**COMMON**	It names any library, not one specific library.

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**: Chicago

Challenge: Maya read a book. Draft check: Maya borrowed two books from the library. Capitalize Maya because it is a proper noun; change Book to books because two requires a plural common noun. Keep library lowercase because it is a common noun.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Part 2 responses should explain that common nouns name general people, places, or things, while proper nouns name specific ones and use capital letters. Accept different correct examples in Part 3 and the challenge. Check the actual draft judgments and corrected sentence, including justified retention of library. Do not require changes to nouns already correct.