Capital Letter Detectives

Check the first letter of each sentence.

3.L.2.b "Use correct capitalization."

NAME _____ DATE _____

CORRECT CAPITAL	NEEDS A CAPITAL
A sentence starts with a capital letter. This sentence follows the rule. Stars sparkle tonight.	This sentence starts with a lowercase letter. Its first letter needs to be a capital. fireflies glow at dusk.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle CORRECT or INCORRECT for each sentence, then choose two items and explain how the first letter helped you decide.

1.	The turtle crawls slowly.	CORRECT INCORRECT
2.	Birds build nests.	CORRECT INCORRECT
3.	my socks are wet.	CORRECT INCORRECT
4.	Rain taps the roof.	CORRECT INCORRECT
5.	dogs dig in dirt.	CORRECT INCORRECT
6.	we can hear thunder.	CORRECT INCORRECT
7.	Leaves fall in autumn.	CORRECT INCORRECT
8.	A sleepy cat yawns.	CORRECT INCORRECT

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 sentence that belongs in CORRECT and one that belongs in INCORRECT.

CORRECT _____

INCORRECT _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one INCORRECT sentence from the sort, rewrite it correctly, and explain what you changed.

ANSWER KEY

Capital Letter Detectives

GRADE 3 · 3.L.2.b

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The turtle crawls slowly.	**CORRECT**	The first letter, T, is capitalized.
2	Birds build nests.	**CORRECT**	The first letter, B, is capitalized.
3	my socks are wet.	**INCORRECT**	The first letter, m, is lowercase.
4	Rain taps the roof.	**CORRECT**	The first letter, R, is capitalized.
5	dogs dig in dirt.	**INCORRECT**	The first letter, d, is lowercase.
6	we can hear thunder.	**INCORRECT**	The first letter, w, is lowercase.
7	Leaves fall in autumn.	**CORRECT**	The first letter, L, is capitalized.
8	A sleepy cat yawns.	**CORRECT**	The first letter, A, is capitalized.

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)

- **CORRECT**: Fish swim upstream.
- **INCORRECT**: buses stop nearby.

Challenge: My socks are wet. I changed the first letter from m to M.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify whether the first letter is capital or lowercase. For the challenge, accept any correctly rewritten INCORRECT item with an explanation of the change.