Spelling Detectives

Find words that need a spelling fix.

3.L.2.f "Use high-frequency words and spelling patterns to spell grade-appropriate words correctly, consulting reference materials as needed."

NAME _____ DATE _____

SPELLED RIGHT

The word has the spelling you would find in a dictionary. Look for spelling patterns you know.

jumping

SPELLED WRONG

The word has a spelling mistake. Think about the word you know, or check a dictionary.

jumpinng

1 SORT

8 items

Circle RIGHT or WRONG for each word, then pick two words and explain how you knew where they belong.

1.	bright	RIGHT WRONG
2.	teacher	RIGHT WRONG
3.	frend	RIGHT WRONG
4.	night	RIGHT WRONG
5.	sed	RIGHT WRONG
6.	becaus	RIGHT WRONG
7.	people	RIGHT WRONG
8.	rain	RIGHT WRONG

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 RIGHT word and one new WRONG word that are not in Part 1.

RIGHT _____

WRONG _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one WRONG word from Part 1, write it correctly, and explain one way to remember its spelling.

ANSWER KEY

Spelling Detectives

GRADE 3 · 3.L.2.f

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	bright	**RIGHT**	Bright is spelled correctly and uses the ight pattern.
2	teacher	**RIGHT**	Teacher is spelled correctly, with ea in teach.
3	frend	**WRONG**	The correct spelling is friend.
4	night	**RIGHT**	Night is spelled correctly and uses the ight pattern.
5	sed	**WRONG**	The correct spelling of this common word is said.
6	becaus	**WRONG**	The correct spelling is because, with an e at the end.
7	people	**RIGHT**	People is spelled correctly.
8	rain	**RIGHT**	Rain is spelled correctly and uses ai.

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)

- **RIGHT**: flower
- **WRONG**: gardin

Challenge: Frend becomes friend. I remember the i before the e.

The WRONG words are frend, sed, and becaus. Accept other clear spelling clues for the two words students explain.