

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.

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.

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.