

**SUMMER  
ACTIVITY  
LANGUAGE  
PACKET  
GRADE TWO**



**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

Choose 2 Books from  
this list and write a book report  
on each one.

## Teachers' Top 100 Books for Children

This list was compiled through an online survey in 1999, by the  
NEA's *Read Across America*.

1. *Charlotte's Web* by E. B. White (9-12 years)
2. *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg (4-8 years)
3. *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss (4-8 years)
4. *The Cat in the Hat* by Dr. Seuss (4-8 years)
5. *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak (4-8 years)
6. *Love You Forever* by Robert N. Munsch (4-8 years)
7. *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein (All ages)
8. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle (Baby-Preschool)
9. *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls (Young Adult)
10. *The Mitten* by Jan Brett (4-8 years)
11. *Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown (Baby-Preschool)
12. *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen (9-12 years)
13. *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C. S. Lewis (9-12 years)
14. *Where the Sidewalk Ends: the Poems and Drawings of Shel Silverstein*  
by Shel Silverstein (All ages)
15. *Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson (9-12 years)
16. *Stellaluna* by Janell Cannon (4-8 years)
17. *Oh, the Places You'll Go* by Dr. Seuss (4-8 years)
18. *Strega Nona* by Tomie De Paola (4-8 years)
19. *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judith  
Viorst (4-8 years)
20. *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* By Bill Martin, Jr. (Baby-  
Preschool)
21. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl (9-12 years)
22. *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margery Williams (4-8 years)
23. *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle (9-12 years)
24. *Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor (9-12 years)
25. *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* by Dr. Seuss (4-8 years)
26. *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* by Jon Scieszka (4-8 years)
27. *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by John Archambault (4-8 years)

28. *Little House on the Praire* by Laura Ingalls Wilder (9-12 years)
29. *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett (9-12 years)
30. *The Complete Tales of Winnie the Pooh* by A. A. Milne (4-8 years)
31. *The Boxcar Children* by Gertrude Chandler Warner (9-12 years)
32. *Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan (9-12 years)
33. *Indian in the Cupboard* by Lynee Reid Banks (9-12 years)
34. *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott Odell (9-12 years)
35. *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli (9-12 years)
36. *The BFG* by Roald Dahl (9-12 years)
37. *The Giver* by Lois Lowry (9-12 years)
38. *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* by Laura Joffe Numeroff (4-8 years)
39. *James and the Giant Peach: A Children's Story* by Roald Dahl (9-12 yrs.)
40. *Little House in the Big Woods* by Laura Ingalls Wilder (9-12 years)
41. *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor (9-12 years)
42. *The Hobbit* by J. R.R. Tolkien (Young Adult)
43. *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss (4-8 years)
44. *Stone Fox* by John Reynolds Gardiner (9-12 years)
45. *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry (9-12 years)
46. *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh* by Robert C. O'Brien (9-12 years)
47. *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott (All ages)
48. *The Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister (Baby-Preschool)
49. *Amazing Grace* by Mary Hoffman (4-8 years)
50. *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by Barbara Robinson (9-12 years)
51. *Corduroy* by Don Freeman (Baby-Preschool)
52. *Jumanji* by Chris Van Allsburg (4-8 years)
53. *Math Curse* by Jon Scieszka (4-8 years)
54. *Matilda* by Roald Dahl (9-12 years)
55. *Summer of the Monkeys* by Wilson Rawls (Young Adult)
56. *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* by Judy Blume (9-12 years)
57. *Ramona Quimby, Age 8* by Beverly Cleary (9-12 years)
58. *The Trumpet of the Swan* by E. B. White (9-12 years)
59. *Are You My Mother?* by Philip D. Eastman (4-8 years)
60. *The Chronicles of Narnia* by C. S. Lewis (9-12 years)
61. *Make Way for Ducklings* by Robert McCloskey (4-8 years)
62. *One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish* by Dr. Seuss (4-8 years)
63. *The Phantom Tollbooth* by Norton Juster (9-12 years)
64. *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats (Baby-Preschool)
65. *The Napping House* by Audrey Wood (4-8 years)

66. *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble* by William Steig (4-8 years)
67. *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter (4-8 years)
68. *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt (9-12 years)
69. *The Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum (All ages)
70. *Anne of Green Gables* by Lucy Maud Montgomery (9-12 years)
71. *Horton Hatches the Egg* by Dr. Seuss (4-8 years)
72. *Basil of Baker Street* by Eve Titus (4-8 years)
73. *The Little Engine That Could* by Watty Piper (4-8 years)
74. *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor (Young Adult)
75. *Curious George* by Hans Augusto Rey (4-8 years)
76. *Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge* by Mem Fox (4-8 years)
77. *Arthur series* by Marc Tolon Brown (4-8 years)
78. *The Great Gilly Hopkins* by Katherine Paterson (9-12 years)
79. *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* by Kevin Henkes (4-8 years)
80. *Little House books* by Laura Ingalls Wilder (9-12 years)
81. *The Little House* by Virginia Lee Burton (4-8 years)
82. *The Runaway Bunny* by Margaret Wise Brown (Baby-Preschool)
83. *Sideways Stories from Wayside School* by Louis Sachar (9-12 years)
84. *Amelia Bedelia* by Peggy Parish (4-8 years)
85. *Harriet the Spy* by Louise Fitzhugh (9-12 years)
86. *A Light in the Attic* by Shel Silverstein (9-12 years)
87. *Mr. Popper's Penguins* by Richard Atwater (9-12 years)
88. *My Father's Dragon* by Ruth Stiles Gannett (9-12 years)
89. *Stuart Little* by E. B. White (9-12 years)
90. *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech (9-12 years)
91. *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth George Speare (9-12 years)
92. *The Art Lesson* by Tomie De Paola (4-8 years)
93. *Caps for Sale* by Esphyr Slobodkina (4-8 years)
94. *Clifford the Big Red Dog* by Norman Bridwell (4-8 years)
95. *Heidi* by Johanna Spyri (All ages)
96. *Horton Hears a Who* by Dr. Seuss (4-8 years)
97. *The Sign of the Beaver* by Elizabeth George Speare (Young Adult)
98. *The Watsons Go to Birmingham - 1963* by Christopher Paul Curtis (9-12)
99. *Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam McBratney (Baby-Preschool)
100. *The Paper Bag Princess* by Robert N. Munsch (4-8 years)

The web site for this list is [www.nea.org/readacross/resources/catalist.html](http://www.nea.org/readacross/resources/catalist.html).

Other web sites such as *Kids' Top 100 Books* are also available.

Book Report Form for a Favorite Book  
This Book Was Terrific!

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of the story: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why I liked this book: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

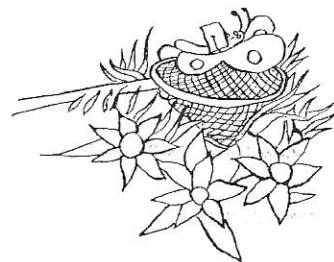
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Your name \_\_\_\_\_



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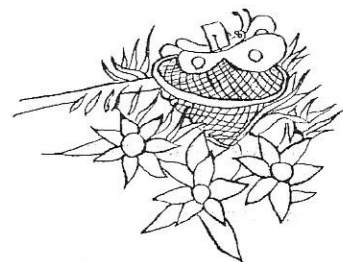
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Your name \_\_\_\_\_





## Paragraph Starters (cont.)

I like snakes because . . .	I would like to be a fish.
It would be more fun to live in a tent.	I love merry-go-rounds.
Yellow is the best color for food.	If I had a fairy godmother . . .
I don't like to draw because . . .	I would not like to lose my nose.
I'd rather be barefooted.	Rain is important.
I wish I could drive a car because . . .	I love books.
A hairy monster lives in my closet.	I would like to travel to . . .
I like ketchup.	I don't like snails because . . .
I don't like wind.	I like tree houses.
It's always a good idea to wear a hat.	Bicycles are great because . . .
I am afraid of big dogs.	Pets are a good idea because . . .



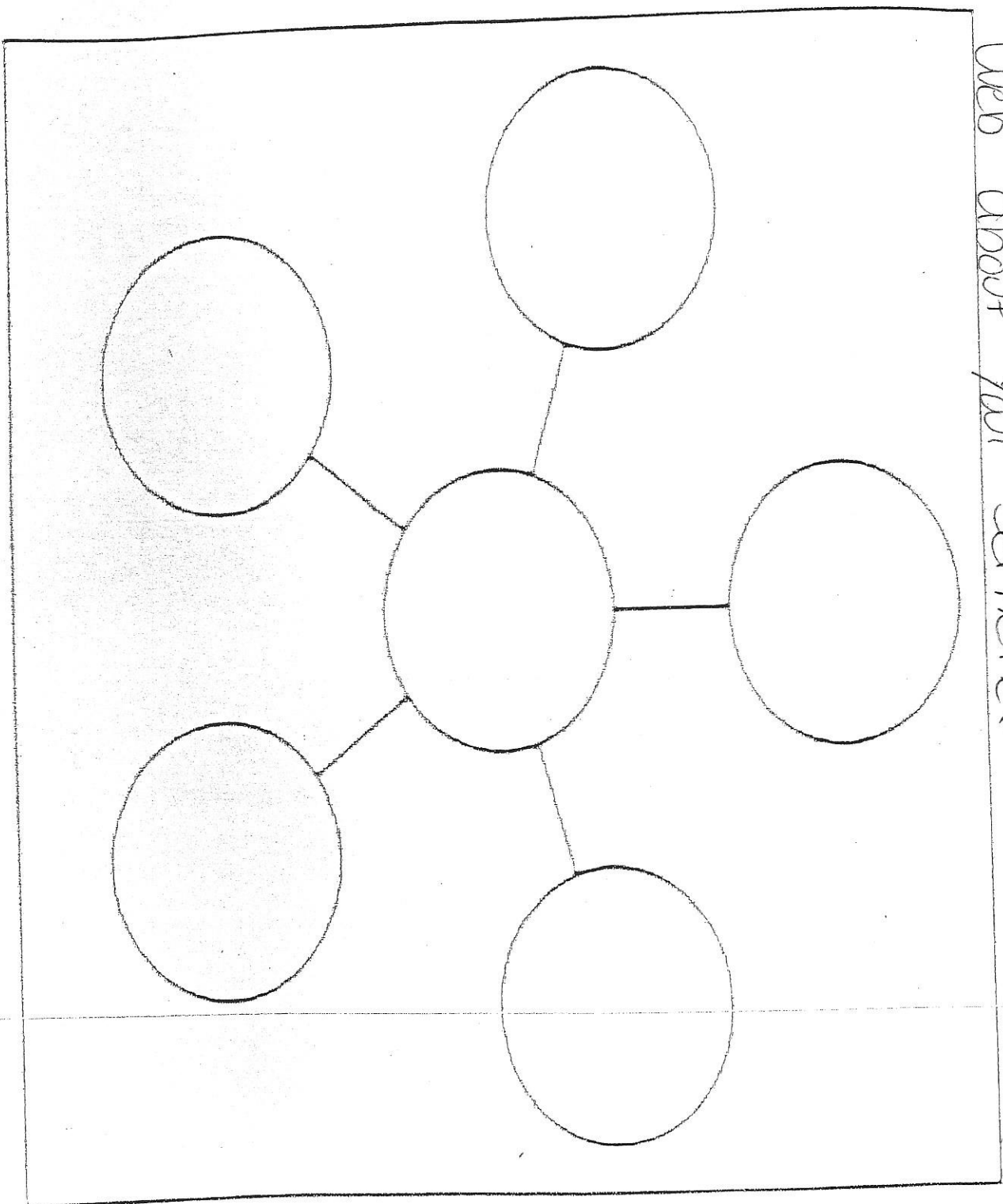
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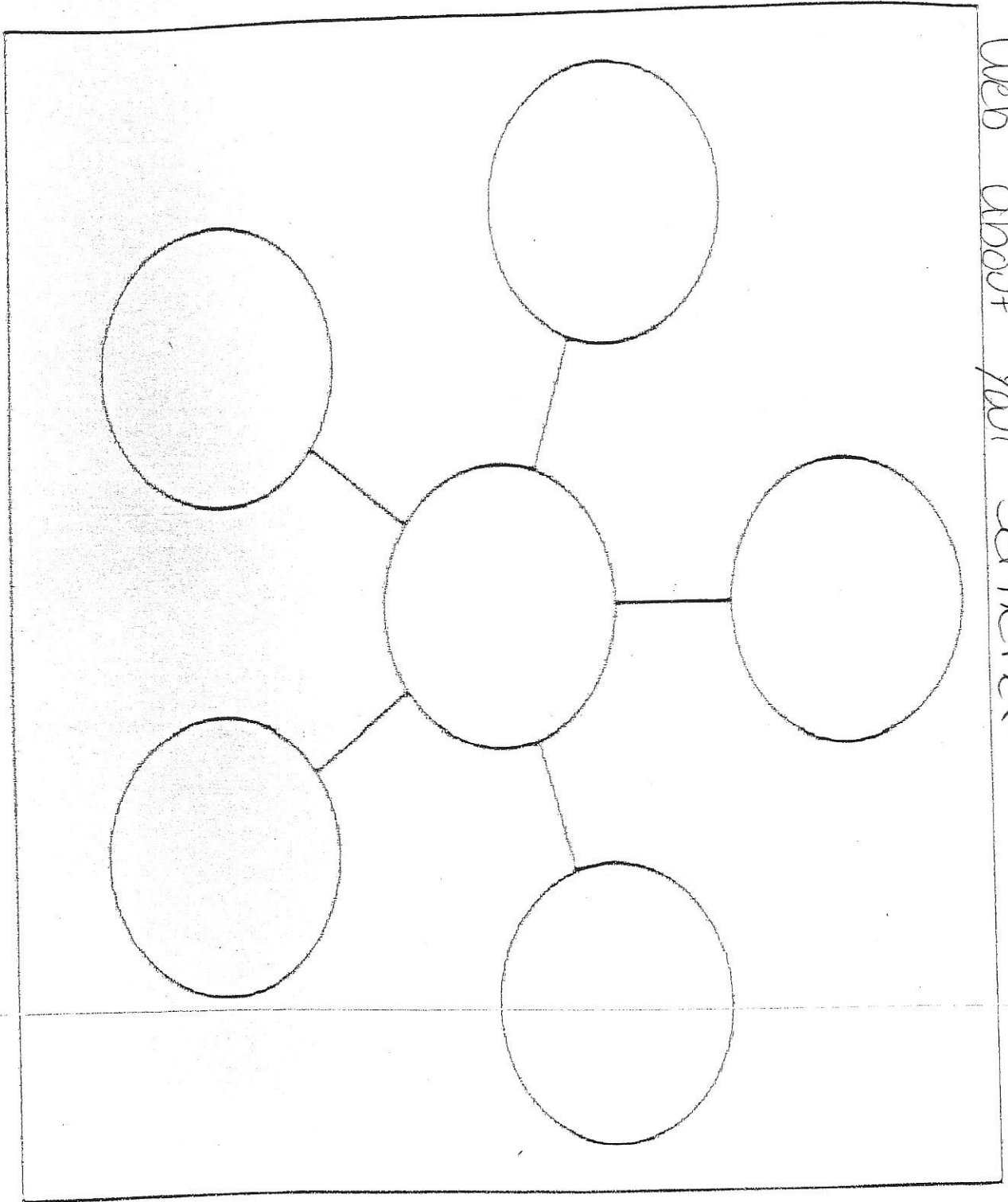
Make a story  
web about your sentence

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Make a story  
web about your sentence

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Write a Paragraph with a title

A series of horizontal lines for writing a paragraph, including a prominent top line and approximately 20 subsequent lines.

Write a Paragraph with a title

A series of horizontal lines for writing a paragraph. There are 17 lines in total, starting from the second line below the title and ending at the second line above the bottom edge of the page.



Write One Paragraph (5 sentences)



If I were my teacher, I'd . . .



Handwriting practice area consisting of 15 horizontal lines.



Handwriting practice area consisting of 10 horizontal lines.

by \_\_\_\_\_

Write One Paragraph (5 sentences)



If I were my teacher, I'd . . .



Handwriting practice area with 15 horizontal lines.



Handwriting practice area with 10 horizontal lines.

by \_\_\_\_\_



# Dream a Little

Dreams often tell a lot about a person. Have you ever dreamed that you were someone important? Who were you? Have you dreamed about going to far off exciting places? Where did you go? Write about your dreams.

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by \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: Use award from page 10 for this activity.

Take the part of a spider. Imagine that you've just finished spinning a web. Write a note inviting a fly to join you there. In your note, use one or more of your spelling words. Send the note to a friend.

bring    cloud    drink    friend    gleam    hold    left  
 plant    pond    smile    spill    swing    try    twice

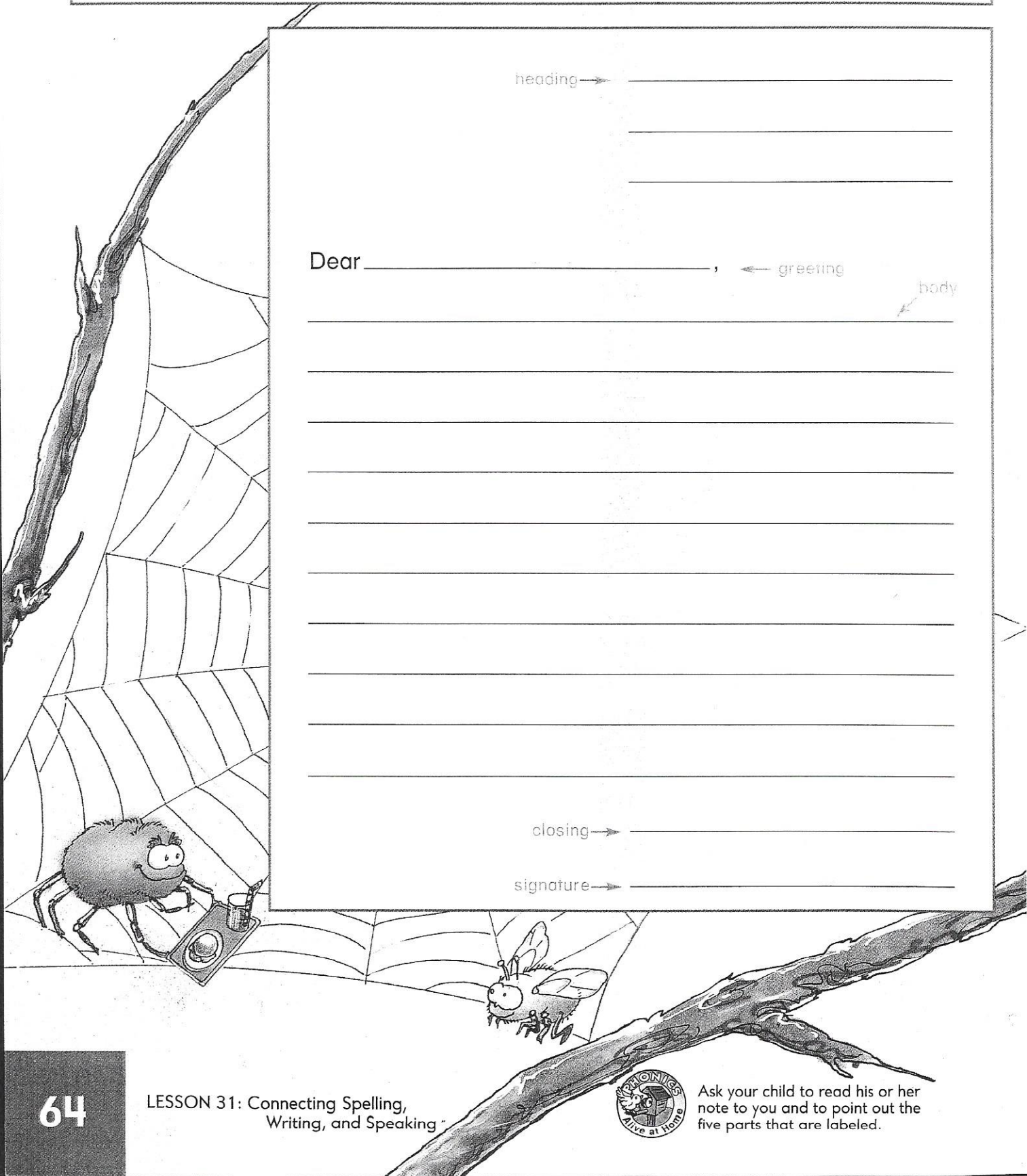
heading → \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Dear \_\_\_\_\_, ← greeting

\_\_\_\_\_ ← body  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

closing → \_\_\_\_\_

signature → \_\_\_\_\_





Take the part of a spider. Imagine that you've just finished spinning a web. Write a note inviting a fly to join you there. In your note, use one or more of your spelling words. Send the note to a friend.

bring	cloud	drink	friend	gleam	hold	left
plant	pond	smile	spill	swing	try	twice

heading → \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Dear \_\_\_\_\_, ← greeting

body

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

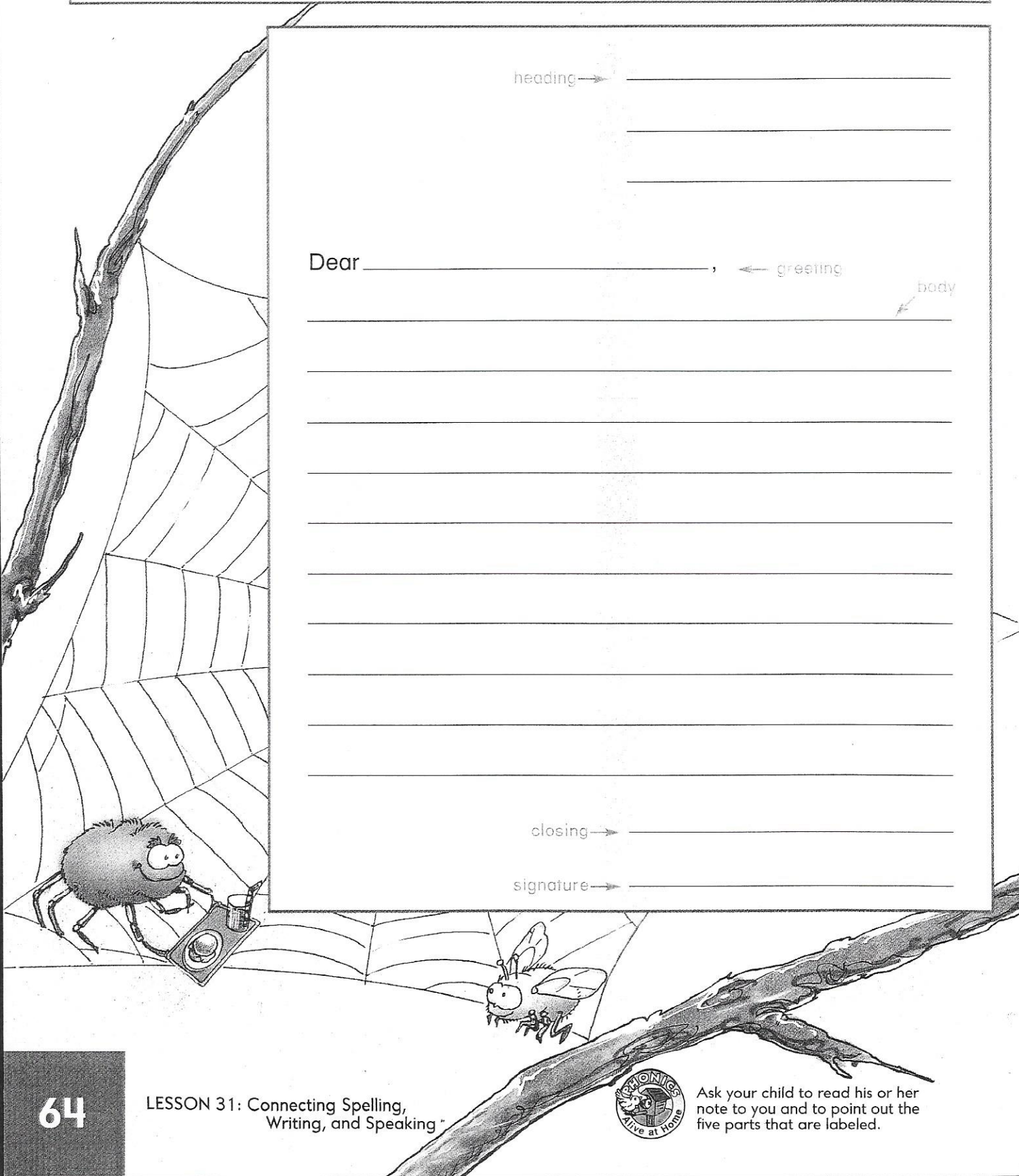
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

closing → \_\_\_\_\_

signature → \_\_\_\_\_



**Helpful Hint** When a short vowel word ends in a single consonant, usually double the final consonant before adding **ing** or **ed**.  
 skip + **ing** = **skipping**      skip + **ed** = **skipped**

**D**ouble the final consonant and add **ing** and **ed** to each base word.  
 Write the new words.

	ing	ed
1. skip	_____	_____
2. grin	_____	_____
3. drip	_____	_____
4. tug	_____	_____
5. ship	_____	_____
6. clap	_____	_____
7. knot	_____	_____

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**R**ead one inventor's log. Circle each word ending in **ing** or **ed**. Write the base word.

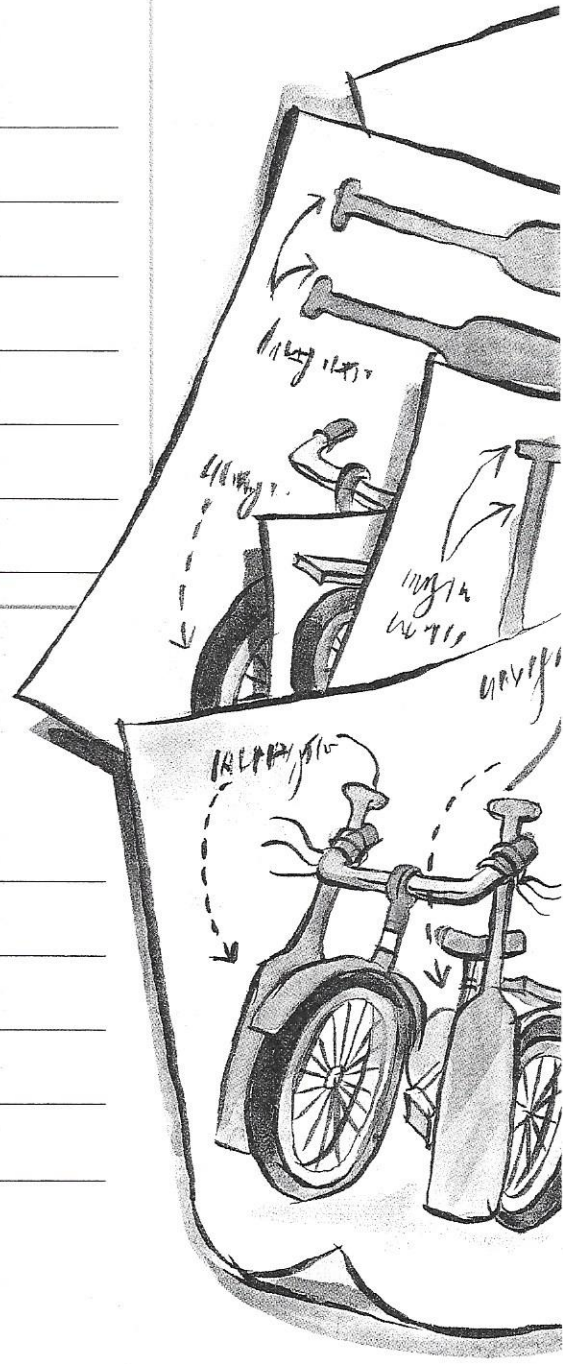
**Monday:** went jogging with Joe  
**Tuesday:** tapped maple trees for syrup  
**Wednesday:** canned beans  
**Thursday:** went shopping with Elana  
**Friday:** went swimming and came up with an idea for a machine

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Work with a small group to invent a swimming machine. Jot down your ideas. Share your plans with classmates.

**Helpful Hint**

Every **syllable** has a vowel sound. Sometimes an ending has a vowel sound and forms a syllable. Sometimes it does not.

**uses**—2 vowel sounds—2 syllables

**used**—1 vowel sound—1 syllable

**R**ead each phrase. Circle the word ending in **s, es, ing, or ed**.  
Then write the word under the correct heading.

	One Syllable	Two Syllables
1. often uses scrap material	_____	_____
2. builds a model	_____	_____
3. might have caused a problem	_____	_____
4. added a new part	_____	_____
5. start making a plan	_____	_____
6. usually works on a team	_____	_____
7. carefully studies the problem	_____	_____
8. stopped to think	_____	_____
9. wanted to help	_____	_____
10. used a new method	_____	_____
11. makes a discovery	_____	_____
12. sketches an idea	_____	_____
13. first started to experiment	_____	_____
14. got wrapped up in her work	_____	_____
15. will be changing the world	_____	_____



Write a sentence using a two-syllable word with an ending.  
Share your sentence with a partner.

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**Helpful Hint**

When a base word ends in **y** after a consonant, change the **y** to **i** before adding **es** or **ed**. When the **y** follows a vowel, just add **s** or **ed**.

carry + **es** = carries  
play + **s** = plays

carry + **ed** = carried  
play + **ed** = played

**A**dd the endings to each base word. Write the new words.

	s or es	ed
1. carry	_____	_____
2. annoy	_____	_____
3. try	_____	_____
4. worry	_____	_____
5. stay	_____	_____
6. delay	_____	_____

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**R**ead the first sentence in each pair. Complete the second sentence so that it tells about the past. Use a form of the word in bold print.

7. Nikki **studies** near an electric lamp.

Nikki's great-grandmother \_\_\_\_\_ by candlelight.

8. Jenny **plays** the electric guitar.

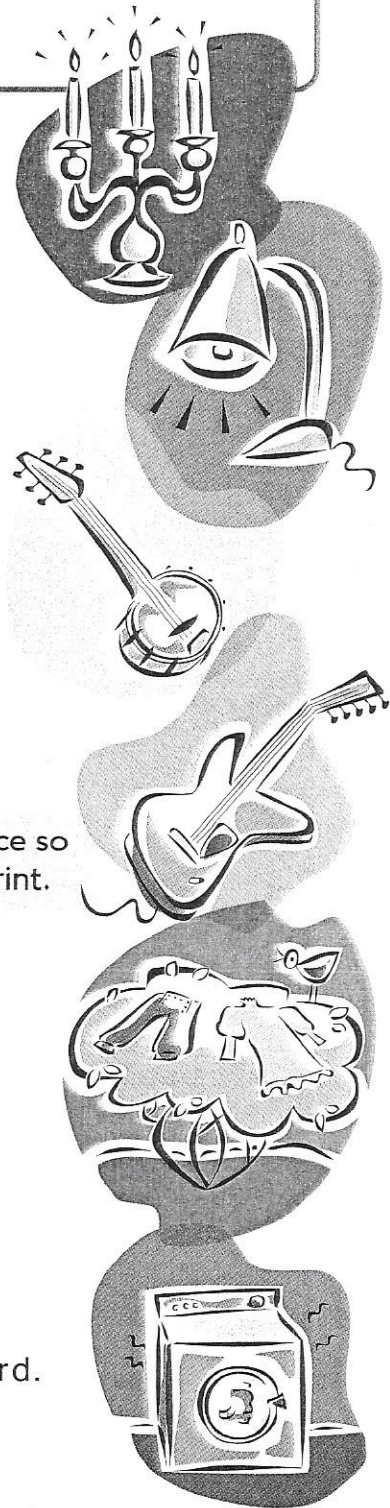
Jenny's great-grandfather \_\_\_\_\_ the banjo.

9. Jesse **obeys** the stoplight and crosses at the green.

Jesse's great-grandfather \_\_\_\_\_ a crossing guard.

10. Aaron **dries** the clothes in a clothes dryer.

Aaron's great-grandmother \_\_\_\_\_ the clothes on a bush.

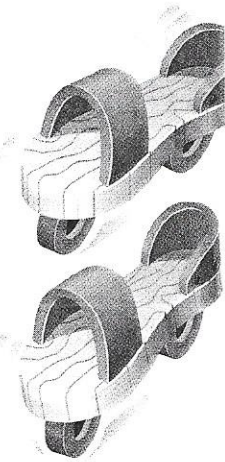


Write a pair of sentences comparing the way you do something today with the way a great-grandparent did years ago.

**Helpful Hint**When a base word ends in **e**, drop the final **e** before adding **ing** or **ed**.save + **ing** = savingsave + **ed** = saved

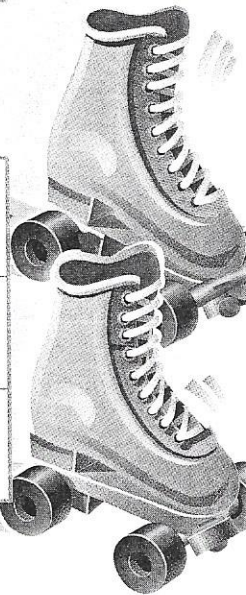
**D**rop the final **e** and add **ing** and **ed** to each base word.  
Write the new words.

	ing	ed
1. save	_____	_____
2. wipe	_____	_____
3. hope	_____	_____
4. exercise	_____	_____
5. paste	_____	_____
6. sneeze	_____	_____



**W**rite the base word.

7 waving _____	8 practiced _____
9 cared _____	10 tracing _____
11 erasing _____	12 joked _____



**A**dd **ing** or **ed** to each word in bold print so that the sentence makes sense. Write the new word.

13. In 1760 Joseph Merlin **create** a pair of wheeled shoes. \_\_\_\_\_

14. When he rolled into a party, he **startle** the other guests. \_\_\_\_\_

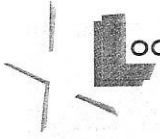
15. Unable to stop or steer, he **skate** right into a mirror. \_\_\_\_\_

16. That might have ended the story of roller **skate**. \_\_\_\_\_

17. But another inventor found a way of **improve** the skates. \_\_\_\_\_




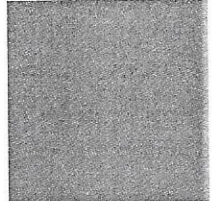

Name \_\_\_\_\_



Look at the different spellings for the same vowel sound.

chair square pear

Build words with this vowel sound. Add the initial letter or letters to each phonogram.

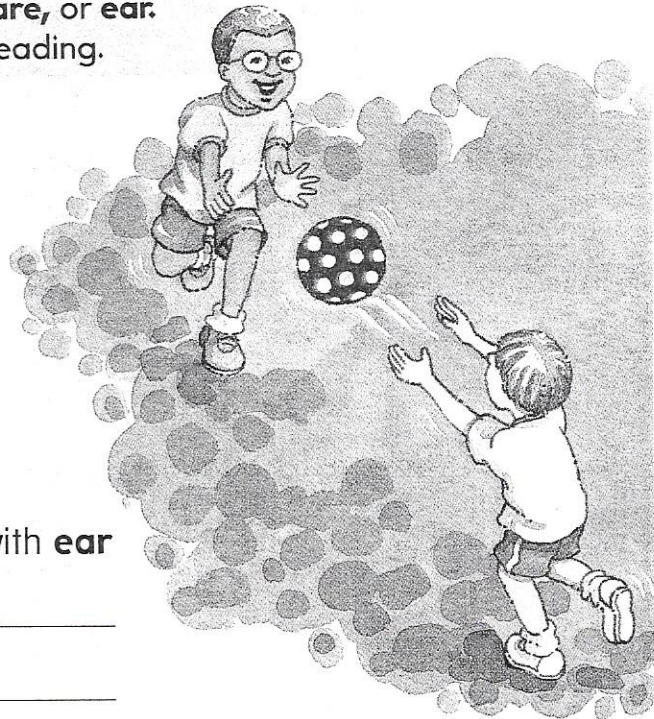
<p>1</p>  <p>air</p> <p>ch _____</p> <p>f _____</p> <p>h _____</p> <p>p _____</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>are</p> <p>squ _____</p> <p>d _____</p> <p>sc _____</p> <p>m _____</p>	<p>3</p>  <p>ear</p> <p>p _____</p> <p>w _____</p> <p>b _____</p> <p>sw _____</p>
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Read the poem. Underline the words with **air**, **are**, or **ear**. Then write each word under the correct heading.

Rule number one is play fair.  
 Don't hog the ball—  
 Teammates share.  
 Never pull hair  
 Or act like a bear.  
 Don't scream and don't swear.  
 Show your teammates you care.



Words with **air**

Words with **are**

Words with **ear**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Write a sentence or two telling what fair play means to you. Circle any words with **air**, **are**, or **ear**.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

drops

excite

outdoors

pale

**A. Choose the word that makes sense for each clue.  
Write the word on the line.**

1. to give a strong feeling of enjoyment \_\_\_\_\_
2. not inside a building \_\_\_\_\_
3. very light in color \_\_\_\_\_
4. small amounts of liquid \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Complete each sentence with a word from the box above.**

5. We play \_\_\_\_\_ when the weather is nice.
6. I spilled some \_\_\_\_\_ of paint on the floor.
7. The sky was \_\_\_\_\_ blue in the early morning.
8. Squirrels playing outside the window will \_\_\_\_\_ our cat for hours.

**C. Choose one vocabulary word from the box above.  
Write the word in a sentence of your own.**

9. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

adventure	delighted	dreamed	enjoyed
grumbled	moonlight	neighbor	nighttime

Read the story. Choose words from the box to complete the sentences. Then write the answers on the lines.

The sky got dark when \_\_\_\_\_ came. Max \_\_\_\_\_ that the end of the day was boring.

“Let’s take a walk outside,” said Mom. “The stars and \_\_\_\_\_ can light our way.”

They walked down the street. Max was surprised and \_\_\_\_\_ to see an owl fly by. They passed the house of a \_\_\_\_\_. There was a light shining in each window.

Max and Mom returned home. “What did you think of our night \_\_\_\_\_?” asked Mom.

“I really \_\_\_\_\_ it,” said Max. I never \_\_\_\_\_ that night could be exciting!”