

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Topic: Language - 'What do I do?' - Exploring verbs

### Reading/Discussion

Today we are going to explore some very important words called verbs. Verbs are 'doing words' - that means that they are words which tell us about physical actions such as 'walk', 'play' and 'jump' and mental actions, or things we do with our minds, such as 'guess' or 'dream'. How many others can you think of?

Verbs also tell us when the action happened. This is called the tense of the verb. The word **walk**, for example, is in the present tense. In the past tense we would say **walked**, and in the future tense, **will walk**. Here is how we could write them in sentences:

I **walk** to school. Yesterday I **walked** to school. Tomorrow I **will walk** to school.

Try to do this with some of the other verbs you thought of.

Regular verbs end in **-ed** in the past tense and often use **will** before the verb in the future tense.

A very important verb which does not tell us about an action is the verb **to be**. This is an irregular verb which means it has different forms, for example, the present tense of **to be** is **is**, the past tense is **was**, and the future tense is **will be**. Here is how we could write this verb in sentences:

He **is** my friend. Yesterday he **was** my friend. Tomorrow he **will be** my friend.

Every full sentence has at least one verb in it.

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**Activities:**

A. How many verbs can you find?

Read the following short story and see how many verbs you can find. Take your pencil and put a circle around all of them.

Sammy Squirrel's Store

"It will be winter soon", Sammy muttered to himself as he picked up another cheekful of nuts and carried them to his secret store. "I must collect as many nuts as I can before the cold weather arrives". All of his friends used the hollow tree as a store but Sammy liked to be different. "Nobody will find my nuts", he smiled to himself.

"I will help you". squeaked his friend, Squiggles, but Sammy did not want anyone else near his store, not even his friend.

"No" he called, as he walked away quickly, "I will hide this last batch and then we can play for a while".

But the secret store where Sammy keeps his nuts is actually a drain pipe, and the nuts slide down the pipe onto the ground where soon the snow will cover them. What a nasty surprise waits for Sammy this winter! Luckily Squiggles has enough nuts for both of them and will share them happily with his friend.

Did you find 24 verbs? When you have, sort them into 3 lists, like this:

Present tense	Past tense	Future tense

B: Can you use the verbs?

Now choose five of the verbs you found in the story:

Can you use these to write your own sentences?

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## Answer Sheet

### Activity A

Present tense	Past tense	Future tense
collect	muttered	will be
arrives	picked	will find
want	carried	will help
play	used	will hide
keeps	liked	will cover
is	smiled	will share
slide	squeaked	
waits	called	
has	walked	