

Name _____

Date _____

Gone With the Past Past Tense Verbs

Reading and Discussion

Verbs are action words. They tell us what someone or something is doing **now** or what they did in the **past**.

- We use a **present tense verb** to tell us about **now**.
- we use a **past tense verb** to tell us what happened in the **past**.

Many present tense verbs can be changed into a past tense verb by adding two simple letters to the end of the word. If you add **ed** to the ending of a word, it changes the action from now to the past.

Look at these sentences. They tell about actions that are happening now.

1. I walk to the store.
2. Mary's puppy barks for a treat.

Walk and **barks** tell us that the action is happening now. They are **present tense** verbs. Now let's add the ending **ed** and see how we can change the verbs.

1. I walked to the store.
2. Mary's puppy barked for a treat.

The verbs **walked** and **barked** show actions that have happened in the past. These verbs are **past tense** verbs.

Activities

Activity A: Change the verbs in the sentences below to **past tense**.

1. I open the door slowly.

2. Mark calls his grandmother every week.

3. The boys seat themselves in the bleachers.

4. We walk all over the zoo.

5. John looks for frogs in the pond.

6. I listen to my teacher.

7. My puppy barks at my sister.

8. Peter paints with oil paints.

Activity B: Can you change the **past tense verbs** below into **present tense verbs**?

Write the correct word on the line.

1. Planned _____ 2. Worked _____ 3. Jumped _____

4. Slipped _____ 5. Skipped _____ 6. Fished _____

7. Talked _____ 8. Bumped _____

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Answer Key

Activity A

1. I opened the door slowly.
2. Mark called his grandmother every week.
3. The boys seated themselves in the bleachers.
4. We walked all over the zoo.
5. John looked for frogs in the pond.
6. I listened to my teacher.
7. My puppy barked at my sister.
8. Peter ainted with oil paints.

Activity B

1. Plan
2. Work
3. Jump
4. Slip
5. Skip
6. Fish
7. Talk
8. Bump