Practice with Verbs

Name: _____ Pd: ___

erbs are words used to express an action, a condition, or a state of being. The two main kinds of verbs are action verbs and linking verbs. Both kinds can be accompanied by helping verbs.

ACTION Verbs:

An action verb tells what the subject does. The action may be physical or mental.

The fish ***swims*** in water. (physical action)
I ***believe*** in unicorns. (mental action)

LINKING Verbs:

A linking verb links the subject of the sentence to a word in the predicate. The most common linking verbs are forms of the verb be.

We ***were*** late to class.
I ***feel*** tired.

Some verbs may serve as either action verbs or as linking verbs.

The rabbit ***appeared*** from the bush. (action)
It ***appeared*** frightened. (linking)

Common Linking Verbs	
Forms of *BE*	be, is, am, are, was, were, been, being
Verbs that express condition	appear, become, feel, grow, look, seem, smell, sound, remain, taste

HELPING Verbs:

A helping verb helps the main verb express action or show time. They are combined with the main verbs to form verb phrases.

The bear ***has run*** away. (The helping verb is ***has***. The main verb is ***run***.)

A few verbs can serve as either helping verbs or main verbs.

That bear ***has*** a baby cub. (The main verb is ***has***.)

Common Helping Verbs	
Forms of *BE*	be, is, am, are, was, were, been, being
Forms of *HAVE*	has, have, had
Forms of *DO*	do, does, did
Others	could, should, would, may, might, must, can, shall, will

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Identifying Verbs

Underline the verb or verb phrase in each sentence. On the line to the right, label the verb A for action or L for linking. If the sentence also has a helping verb, underline it and add the label H to the line to the right.

Samples: My family likes the zoo in our city. A

The kangaroos will be safe inside their mothers' pouches. L, H

1. The kangaroos hop across the fields. _____
2. I admire the big cats for their grace and power. _____
3. The monkeys easily swing from one tree to another. _____
4. The restless monkeys often sound noisy. _____
5. The prairie dogs scurry in and out of their holes in the ground. _____
6. Their movements are rapid. _____
7. The koala bears have climbed the eucalyptus tree. _____
8. The peacock seemed more beautiful than before. _____
9. In the rain forest display at the zoo, the birds looked strange and exotic. _____
10. The goats in the children's zoo are hoping for treats. _____
11. Panda bears are rare. _____
12. Soon the hippopotamus will emerge from the murky water. _____
13. The hippopotamus can hold its breath for a long time. _____
14. The snake's skin feels rather smooth. _____

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