

Purpose & SOL

- Students will identify common and proper nouns and perform an exercise for each.
- Language Arts, 2.13c

Materials

- Common Noun and Proper Noun header cards – one set for each group of 3-4 students
- A set of 2 cones per group
- List of common and proper nouns

Length
20 min.

Introduction

Read a sentence to the class. Ask students to run in place if they can tell you the noun in the sentence. Have them run in place again if they know whether it's a common or proper noun. If it's a common noun, discuss how it's always lowercased (squat down 3 times to show how the letter is small). If it's a proper noun, discuss how it's always uppercased (jump up 3 times to show how the letter is tall). Practice the exercises and strategy several times to reinforce the movements for common v. proper nouns.

Implementation

Exercise the Answer

- 1) Divide the class into groups of 3-4 students. Set up cones for a relay. The students will line up at one cone, and the common and proper noun header cards will be placed at their other cone.
- 2) The teacher will say a noun or read a sentence with 1 noun.
- 3) The first person in line will hop, skip, jump, etc. to their other cone and pick up the header card that describes the noun (common vs. proper).
- 4) They will skip to bring back the card to their team and their team will do the coordinating exercise (squats for common, jumps up for proper), while the student skips to return the card back to the other cone.
- 5) That student will go to the end of the line, and the next student will skip once a noun is said or a sentence is read.
- 6) Repeat as long as time allows.

Cool Down

Clean up the relay and review a few more. Stretch up for proper nouns, reach down for common.

Modifications

- Only read the noun and have the students decide whether it is common or proper.
- For a **challenge**: Read a sentence, have students find the noun and decide whether it is common or proper.



Common

Noun

Proper

Noun