

ACTION VERBS

Action verbs are words we use to show action. Examples of **ACTION VERBS** include **skip**, **bounce**, **sneak**, **blink**, **throw**, and **twist**.

>> Circle the action verbs. If there is a number after the sentence that tells you how many verbs you need to locate.

1. A worm digs.
2. The cheese melted.
3. Diego opened then closed the blinds. (2)
4. Our trees toppled.
5. The birthday candles flicker.
6. The dolphin swam, leapt and splashed. (3)
7. An elf snickers.
8. Pooja hammered the nail.

KEEP IN MIND: The action of an action verb is not always that noticeable. Sometimes you can barely see it, like with the verbs **think**, **sleep** and **breathe**.

>> Continue to circle the verbs.

9. Justine dreams of lollipops.
10. Tim watched the sunset.
11. The snails rest on the sidewalk.
12. Paulina enjoyed the show.

13. Stan stood and stared for two hours. (2)

14. Farrah held the volleyball.

15. Dad has the keys.

16. Todd loves dogs.

LEARN MORE: Sometimes verbs appear with what are called helping verbs. These words simply help the verb communicate its action. For instance, **is** walking, **was** laughing, **will** go, **might** go, **should** go, **are** going, **have** talked, **has been** talking, etc.

>> Continue to circle the verbs, including any helping verbs.

17. Tanya will type an email this afternoon.

18. The city has fallen silent after a night of festivities.

19. A storm might whip through town today.

20. The doctor took her temperature.

21. Sampson was looking at his long hair.

22. The cup had overflowed with juice.

23. The sky has been changing colours.

24. I could wash my hair tomorrow.

25. He snored.

26. The plane should zoom down the runway soon.

27. Our dog slobbers.

28. The stars shone and shimmered, while the moon glowed. (3)

>> Get the hang of action verbs. Follow the instructions under each sentence.

29. They jumped over the fence.

> Replace the underlined verb with one that tells if it was a big or little jump.

30. The tornado _____ the street.

> Add a verb that indicates what happened.

31. Three ballerinas twirled and _____.

> Add another verb. Try to choose one that also starts with a T.

32. The gazelles _____ all the lions.

> Add an unexpected verb to set up what could be an interesting story.

33. Jamil went to the park.

> Replace the underlined verb with a more specific verb.

34. The player _____ the puck across the rink.

> Add a verb that would help readers picture how the puck moved across the rink.

35. Adrian cried after the test.

> Adrian cried very very hard. What would be a better verb to describe the action?

36. The beetle _____.

> Add an unexpected verb to set up what could be an interesting story.

37. Cheryl found a gem on the beach.

> Write down three other verbs that could also work in this sentence, and that are less blah: