



Sort It!

Color each card. **Blue** = common noun (any one). **Pink** = proper noun (only one).



Detective trick: the ANY test. If you can say **any** in front of it, it is a common noun.



Common any one



Proper only one



dog



Paris



teacher



Friday



mango



Australia



river



December

Your turn! Draw something from **your** life. Write its name on the line.



A common noun

name: _____



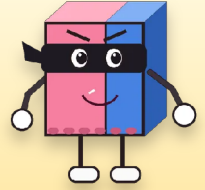
A proper noun

name: _____



Find the Proper Nouns

Smudge rubbed out the capitals on the proper nouns! Circle every proper noun. Then write each one with its capital letter on the line.



Clue: a proper noun is the special name of one person, place, animal, day or month. Use the ANY test: if you can say **any** in front of it, it is NOT a proper noun.



1. On saturday rio went to the beach.



2. My dog rex likes to swim.



3. We flew to spain in august.



4. Our teacher is ms. robinson.



5. Now write your own sentence with a proper noun in it.
Remember its capital letter!

3

The Line-Up

Draw a line from each common noun to the proper noun that goes with it.



 **Common**

 **Proper**



city



day



month



country



mountain



girl



Amira



July



Mount Everest



New York

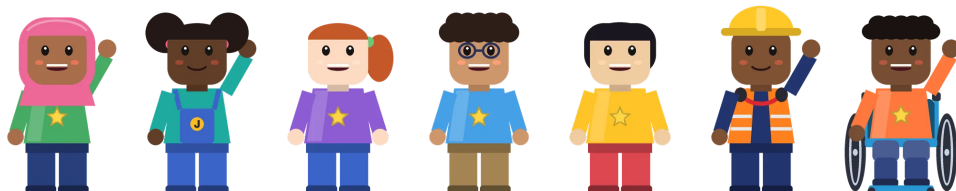


Jamaica



Sunday

Bonus: Write the special name of **your** school. Remember the capital letters!





Detective Crossword

Read each clue and look at its picture. Write one letter in each box.



1		2		3		
4						



1 across · 7 letters

A proper noun always begins with a _____ letter.



1 down · 6 letters

dog could be any dog. It is a _____ noun.



2 down · 6 letters

London is the special name of one city. It is a _____ noun.



3 down · 4 letters

Memory trick: proper nouns stand _____!



4 across · 3 letters

A proper noun names only _____ person, place, animal or thing.

Word bank: CAPITAL · COMMON · PROPER · TALL · ONE



Name Hunt

Four proper nouns are hiding. Read each clue and write the name first. Then find it and color it in. Names go across → or down ↓ only.



C	A	N	A	D	A	B	T
T	K	B	L	W	H	S	J
A	F	Q	D	G	V	P	U
M	X	C	K	T	B	L	N
I	G	W	P	H	S	K	E
R	B	V	F	Z	T	D	Q
A	M	O	N	D	A	Y	L
K	S	H	W	G	B	C	P



The country with a red maple leaf on its flag



The day that comes after Sunday



The month that comes after May



A girl's name. She is one of our detectives!

Stuck? Here are the names, upside down: Canada · Monday · June · Amira



Think Like a Detective

Decide if each detective is right. Then explain why. Good detectives always explain!

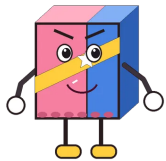


"My pet dog is named Rex. So the word *dog* is a proper noun!"

Step 1. Is Zip right? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Step 2. Why?

Step 3. How sure are you? 😞 ☐ 😊 ☐ 😄 ☐



"One capital letter is a mistake:

My Sister and I visited Niagara Falls on Tuesday.

Which one should I rub out?"

Step 1. Circle the capital that is a mistake.

Step 2. Why is it a mistake?

Step 3. How sure are you? 😞 ☐ 😊 ☐ 😄 ☐



"December comes back every year, so *December* must be a common noun."

Step 1. Is this detective right? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Step 2. Why?

Step 3. How sure are you? 😞 ☐ 😊 ☐ 😄 ☐



Detective Trail

A game for 2 to 4 players. You need a die (or number cards 1 to 6) and a coin or button for each player.



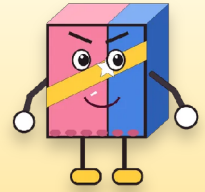
20 finish	19 slide to 12	18 clue card	17	16
11 up to 17	12	13	14 clue card	15 slide to 8
10 clue card	9	8	7 up to 13	6
1 start	2	3 up to 9	4	5 clue card

How to play: Roll and move. Land on 🪜 or 🐍 or 🔍? Another player reads you a clue card. 🪜 Answer right to climb up. 🐍 Answer right to stay safe, or slide down. 🔍 Answer right to roll again. First to the 🏆 wins!



Clue Cards

Cut out the cards and put them face down in a pile. The answer is printed upside down at the bottom.



Clue 1

Which word is a noun?

 drum ·  dance ·  sleepy

Answer: drum

Clue 2

Which word is a proper noun?

 school ·  Tuesday ·  tree

Answer: Tuesday

Clue 3

A goat is a noun. What kind is it?

 person ·  place ·  animal ·  thing

Answer: animal

Clue 4

Which one is written the right way?

 new York · New York · new york

Answer: New York

Clue 5

Which word is a common noun?

 Canada ·  beach ·  Mateo

Answer: beach

Clue 6

Name a proper noun for a month.

Say one out loud!

Answer: July, December...

Clue 7

Why does The have a capital in "The cat ran."?

 It starts the sentence ·  It is a proper noun

Answer: It starts the sentence

Clue 8

Which word passes the ANY test?

 apple ·  Mei ·  Jamaica

Answer: apple

Clue 9

Name a common noun for a person.

Say one out loud!

Answer: teacher, baby, boy...

Clue 10

Which is the special name of a mountain?

 hill ·  Mount Everest ·  volcano

Answer: Mount Everest



Case Closed!



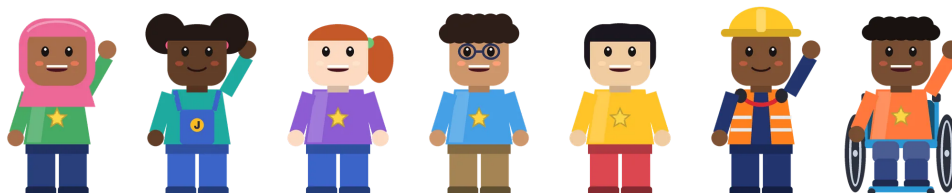
is an official **Super Noun Detective**

Common nouns name **any one**. Proper nouns name **only one** and always start with a capital letter.

How do proper nouns feel now? Color one.

☐ I need more practice ☐ I am getting there ☐ I can teach it!

Date _____ Signed _____



Answer Key

1. Sort It

Common: dog, teacher, mango, river

Proper: Paris, Friday, Australia, December

2. Find the Proper Nouns

1. Saturday, Rio
2. Rex (dog is a common noun)
3. Spain, August
4. Ms. Robinson (teacher is a common noun)

3. The Line-Up

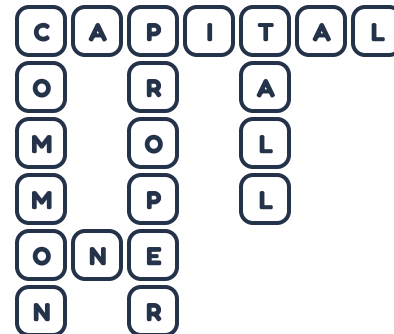
city · New York, day · Sunday, month · July, country · Jamaica, mountain · Mount Everest, girl · Amira

6. Think Like a Detective

1. No. *dog* could be any dog. *Rex* is the special name.
2. **Sister.** It could be anyone's sister, so it is a common noun.
3. No. *December* is the special name of one month.

Step 3 (how sure?) has no right answer. A child who is right but "not sure" needs one more practice round. A child who is wrong but "very sure" has a mix-up worth talking about.

4. Crossword



5. Name Hunt

Canada, Monday, June, Amira

