

Section 1 CONTENTS

Introduction	5
How to Use This Book	6
Assessment Records	7
Games & Activities Matrix	15
Standards	16

NOUNS 17

Teaching Notes	18
Student Page 1 (Nouns)	20
Student Page 2 (Common Nouns)	21
Student Page 3 (Proper Nouns)	22
Student Page 4 (Singular and Plural Nouns)	23
Student Page 5 (Compound Nouns)	24
Student Page 6 (Collective Nouns)	25
Student Page 7 (Possessive Nouns)	26
Student Page 8 (Verbal Nouns)	27
Student Page 9 (Noun Phrases)	28
Student Page 10 (Nouns with Suffixes)	29
Articles 30	
Student Page 11 (Articles 1)	31
Student Page 12 (Articles 2)	32
Assessment (Nouns) 33	

ADJECTIVES 35

Teaching Notes	36
Student Page 13 (Descriptive Adjectives)	38
Student Page 14 (Number Adjectives)	39
Student Page 15 (Antonyms)	40
Student Page 16 (Verbal Adjectives)	41
Student Page 17 (Adjectives of Degree)	42
Student Page 18 (Adjectives with Suffixes)	43
Student Page 19 (Adjectives in Similes)	44
Assessment (Adjectives) 45	

PRONOUNS 47

Teaching Notes	48
Student Page 20 (Personal Pronouns)	50
Student Page 21 (Pronouns—Number and Gender)	51
Student Page 22 (Possessive Pronouns)	52
Punctuation 53	
Student Page 23 (Interrogative Pronouns)	54
Assessment (Pronouns) 55	

VERBS 57

Teaching Notes	58
Student Page 24 (“Doing” Verbs 1)	60
Student Page 25 (“Doing” Verbs 2)	61
Student Page 26 (“Saying” Verbs 1)	62
Student Page 27 (“Saying” Verbs 2)	63
Student Page 28 (“Being” and “Having” Verbs)	64
Student Page 29 (“Helping” Verbs 1)	65
Student Page 30 (“Helping” Verbs 2)	66
Student Page 31 (Verbs—Contractions)	67
Student Page 32 (Verb-Subject Agreement)	68
Student Page 33 (Verbs—Contractions)	69
Student Page 34 (Verbs—Tense)	70
Student Page 35 (Verbs—Past Tense)	71
Student Page 36 (Verbs—Future Tense)	72
Student Page 37 (Verbs—Suffixes 1)	73
Student Page 38 (Verbs—Suffixes 2)	74
Assessment (Verbs) 75	

Section 1 CONTENTS

ADVERBS 77

Teaching Notes	78
Student Page 39 (Adverbs—Manner, Time, Place 1)	80
Student Page 40 (Adverbs—Manner, Time, Place 2)	81
Student Page 41 (Adverbs)	82
Student Page 42 (Adverbs—Antonyms).	83
Student Page 43 (Adverbs—Interrogative).	84
Assessment (Adverbs)	85

PREFIXES

Student Page 44 (Prefixes 1)	87
Student Page 45 (Prefixes 2)	88

PREPOSITIONS & PHRASES 89

Teaching Notes	90
Student Page 46 (Prepositions & Phrases)	92
Student Page 47 (Prepositions)	93
Student Page 48 (Adjectival Phrases)	94
Student Page 49 (Adverbial Phrases)	95
Assessment (Prepositions & Phrases)	96

SENTENCES 99

Teaching Notes	100
Student Page 50 (Sentences)	102
Student Page 51 (Sentences—Statements)	103
Student Page 52 (Sentences—Questions)	104
Student Page 53 (Sentences—Exclamations)	105
Student Page 54 (Sentences—Commands)	106
Student Page 55 (Sentences—Subject and Predicate 1)	107
Student Page 56 (Sentences—Subject and Predicate 2)	108
Student Page 57 (Compound Sentences)	109
Clauses	110
Student Page 58 (Complex Sentences 1)	111
Student Page 59 (Complex Sentences 2)	112
Student Page 60 (Adverbial Clauses 1)	113
Student Page 61 (Adverbial Clauses 2)	114
Student Page 62 (Adjectival Clauses)	115
Student Page 63 (Sentences in Dialogue 1)	116
Student Page 64 (Sentences in Dialogue 2)	117
Assessment (Sentences)	118

Section 2 CONTENTS

GAMES & ACTIVITIES.	121
WORDWORKS	
Teaching Notes	123
Progress Charts	124
Cards	125
SHUFFLE ‘N’ SORT	
Teaching Notes	130
Progress Charts	131
Baseboard	132
Word Cards	133
FACT FINDERS	
Teaching Notes	153
Progress Charts	154
Word Cards	155
Activity Cards	170
GRAMMAR TASK CARDS	
Nouns	185
Adjectives	187
Pronouns	189
Verbs	191
Adverbs	193
Phrases	195
Prepositions	196
Sentences	197
WORD BANKS	
Antonyms.	201
Collective Nouns	202
Compound Words	203
Gender Words	205
Homophones	206
Prefixes—Change word meaning	208
Suffixes—Adjective-forming suffixes	212
Suffixes—Noun-forming suffixes	213
Suffixes—Adverb-forming suffixes	214
ANSWER KEY	215

Exploring PRONOUNS

The Pros and Cons

Select a piece of text and make an enlarged copy. White-out ten pronouns. Make copies for each child (or pair). Ask them to write the pronouns into the spaces. Share answers.

Variation: White-out ten nouns instead. Ask the students to fill in what the nouns might be, using the pronouns as their clue. Make sure they understand that there will be no one “right” answer for every noun missing.

I Spy

Ask the students to record all the pronouns they can find in the first ten lines of a book that they are reading. As an extension, ask them also to record which noun each pronoun has replaced. Share their findings.

Make the Connection

Hand each student two or three index cards containing nouns (singular, plural, and possessive). In turn, ask the students what pronouns they would use to replace the nouns on their cards.

e.g., boat (it), Mrs. Jackson (she), Tammy and Mia (they), Jai’s (his)

Pronoun Sorts

Give pairs of students a piece of copied text or a magazine article. Ask them to cut out ten pronouns each and group them in some way (e.g., singular and plural; personal and possessive; or first-, second-, and third-person). Tell them to paste their groups on a piece of paper. Share and display their work.

Speak Up

Ask students to cut pictures of two people out of a magazine and paste them, facing each other, in their notebooks. Show students how to draw a large speech bubble above each person. Invite them to write what each person might be saying to the other. Check later to see what pronouns they have used.

Personal Pronouns

Pronouns are used instead of nouns in speaking and writing. **Personal pronouns** replace the names of people and things.

*I me my mine
you your yours
she her hers
he him his
it its
they their them theirs
we us our ours*

1. Circle the pronouns in each sentence.

- Pass me the biscuits, please.
- They like jelly beans.
- Wait for her at the bus stop.
- I gave him a bag of marbles.
- We didn't see them at the pool.

2. Replace the underlined noun with a pronoun, then complete the sentence.

- a. Jane is a great tennis player.

She _____

- b. Maria opened the last birthday present.

- c. The door is a heavy wooden one.

- d. Don, Sam, and Abdul are watching television.

3. Find the pronouns and circle them.

they	me	her
we	she	them
their	us	you
your	my	he

s	m	e	r	h	e	r	p
o	t	h	e	m	l	o	d
w	e	z	f	t	h	e	y
k	p	s	h	e	t	n	j
t	h	e	i	r	b	c	s
n	y	o	u	r	d	n	q
u	s	n	m	a	h	e	x
b	z	h	y	s	u	w	k

4. Sketch the following.

my teddy bear	your face	our room	his pet rabbit
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**NOUN****VERB****ADJECTIVE**

feather

elect

familiar

kiosk

baffle

hazy

dwarf

capture

punctual

almond

publish

odd

biography

occupy

numb

anthem

mope

moody

orphan

lunge

lukewarm

nursery

vibrate

majestic

shield

applaud

jaunty

beret

whine

empty

scarf

narrate

sly

jellyfish

shuffle

stormy

Shuffle 'n' Sort Number 20