

BEOWULF'S GRAMMAR

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY JENNIFER GUEST



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BEOWULF'S GRAMMAR

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Introduction

Dear parents and teachers,

I spent over twenty years homeschooling. During that time, I used a multitude of grammar programs. Almost all of them were DULL, and it was a struggle to retain some of the concepts. We went over the same grammar terms, year after year. Grammar was almost invariably boring with colorless workbooks and some of the most tedious, mind-numbing sentences ever created for a student's analysis. There never seemed to a theme throughout the workbooks we used...just endless exercises that looked or sounded similar. There was no creativity, and certainly little, if any, fun. It was no wonder my kids weren't "chomping at the bit" to learn or explore grammar!

Beowulf's Grammar (Level 1) is my remedy to the dearth of interesting grammar programs. I've included comics, colorful illustrations, hands-on activities, gentle review, memorable characters, and a combination of approaches to help students not only retain what they are learning, but to actually enjoy grammar!

Beowulf's Grammar is a stand-alone workbook that is appropriate for 2nd through 6th grade. It can also be used with an older student or even an adult who needs to learn or review basic grammar concepts (if s/he doesn't mind some of the juvenile graphics and/or activities). The workbook covers all eight parts of speech as well as parts of a sentence and other grammar concepts like punctuation. It doesn't just cover the basics; it also delves into some more complicated grammar concepts that aren't usually included in a primary grammar book. I believe children are smart and can absorb these concepts if they are presented in an accessible way!

This grammar workbook is designed to be used by a multitude of ages, and so it will require a multitude of approaches, based on your student's ability level. Younger students may need you to read pages out loud, be on hand to point things out, and help keep them on track. Older students may be able to go through the workbook by themselves (with supervision for activities), as each lesson is explained to the student. Reluctant writers can do some of the lessons orally. Be flexible and make it work for you and your unique situation! If you aren't comfortable with grammar, you can learn along with your student(s)!

There are a variety of hands-on activities scheduled in this workbook. I know some kids hate hands-on activities, but these were designed to help cement concepts, so I don't recommend skipping them. Many studies have shown that most children learn best by a variety of approaches (seeing, hearing, doing). The more approaches you use, the more "brain scaffolding" you'll help create which will help concepts stick. You can encourage a student who is reluctant to cut & paste, by cutting and pasting with him. Maybe you (or a sibling under your supervision) can cut one thing out while he cuts out another item. Working together is sometimes more fun anyway!

I've used a variety of methods in this workbook to teach grammar. Not only do I have students analyze sentences, but I also introduce them to diagramming. I believe that diagramming is helpful as it's basically a picture of a sentence and can help students see how parts of speech and parts of a sentence are related.

Diagramming can get kind of crazy and cumbersome, too, so I've only explored it just enough to allow students to see how the basics work together. Both approaches complement each other nicely! In addition to these fundamental exercises, there are plenty of activities and other methods to help explain grammar concepts, including comics!

There are optional review pages in the appendix of this workbook, as well as some help and reference sheets. The review pages are designed to be gentle and non-overwhelming. Some of them contain passages from real stories like *Heidi* and *The Velveteen Rabbit* to help students stretch their abilities and work with sentences that aren't created solely for the purpose of introducing grammar! The review pages are designed to be used three times a week (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday). They can be used at the beginning or the end of the grammar lesson. It's totally up to you! Some students may not need the review pages at all. For others, these pages will help them retain their lessons, even weeks (and months) later. The review pages continually reinforce previous lessons to keep them fresh in students' minds.

There are several extra components that I've created to accompany this workbook that will make learning (and teaching!) grammar easier. There is an optional teacher's manual that contains the answers to the questions and exercises in the workbook, as well as additional comments, printables, and ideas to help bring grammar to life. The teacher's manual also contains a very basic schedule that schedules the workbook out over 33 weeks. That gives you 3 additional weeks for the invariable things that crop up during a school year like illness or opportunities, as well as providing extra time to spend on any concepts that need more work. I've also created a year-long language arts curriculum schedule that uses *Beowulf's Grammar* as a spine. The schedule features a multitude of colorful books, online games and activities, videos, an optional writing unit, and more - to help engage even reluctant learners and make learning language arts (and grammar) much more engaging and meaningful than a traditional grammar and language arts workbook.

You can find the teacher's manual and curriculum on my website: www.guesthollow.com.

I hope you enjoy your year with Beowulf's Grammar!

Sincerely, Jennifer Guest



Please consider leaving a review at the Beowulf's Grammar page located at our store:

http://guesthollow.com/store/

MEET THE CHARACTERS!

Abigail

Abigail is the big sister. She's homeschooled. Her favorite school subjects are science and history. She always looks forward to the science fair every year and comes up with creative projects as entries!



Henry is the "middle child." He's also homeschooled and attends some co-op classes. He loves playing piano. His favorite school subjects are math, Latin, and art. He enjoys building models and acting in the little local town's theatre productions.

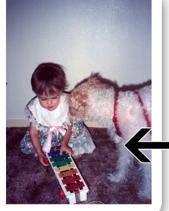


Grace is the baby of the family. She was adopted when she was a young toddler. She's too little to do any school, yet, but she likes to pretend to help her brother and sister. She has some learning challenges and sees a speech therapist. She has the sweetest personality!



Beowulf (Bay-oh-wulf) is the family dog. He's a frisky Fox Terrier and is the star of this workbook! He's a little obsessed with grammar, and his mission is to make it UNBORING!



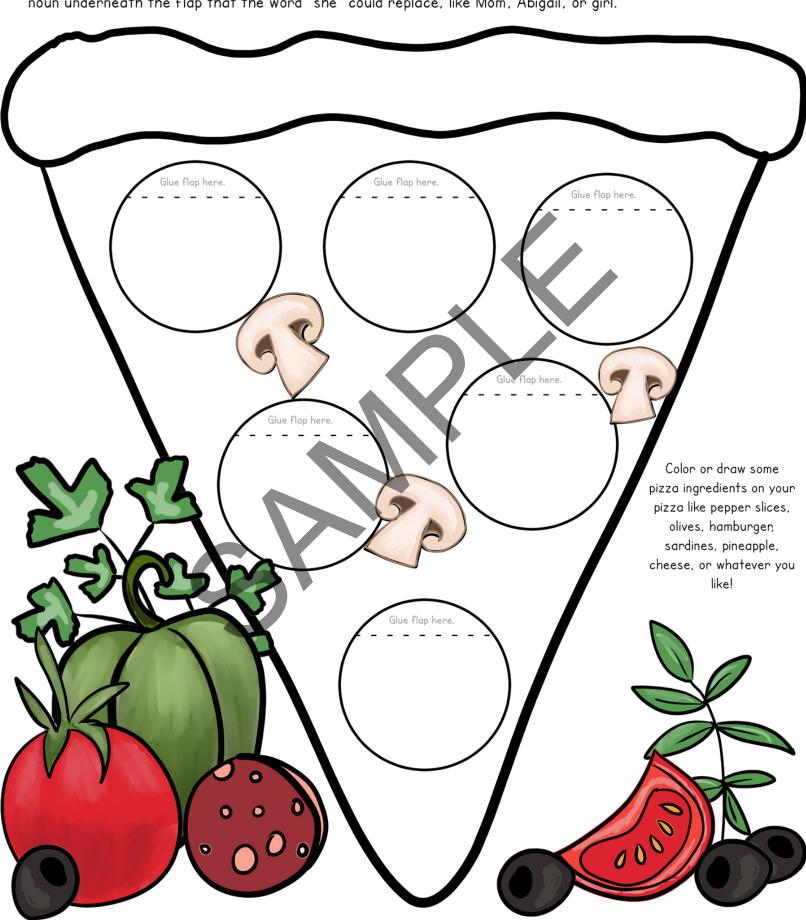


DID YOU KNOW?
Beowulf was the author's real dog during her childhood!



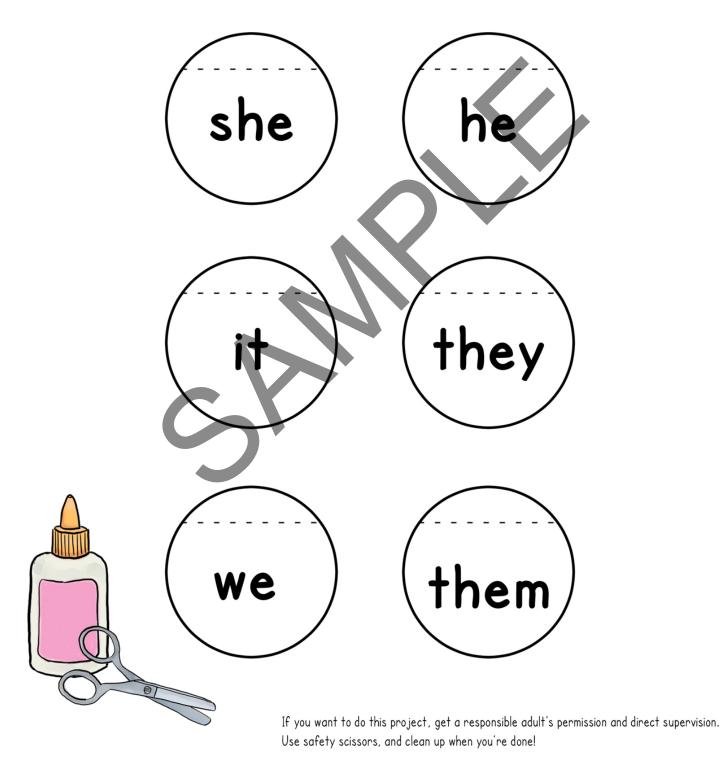
Pronoun Pizza

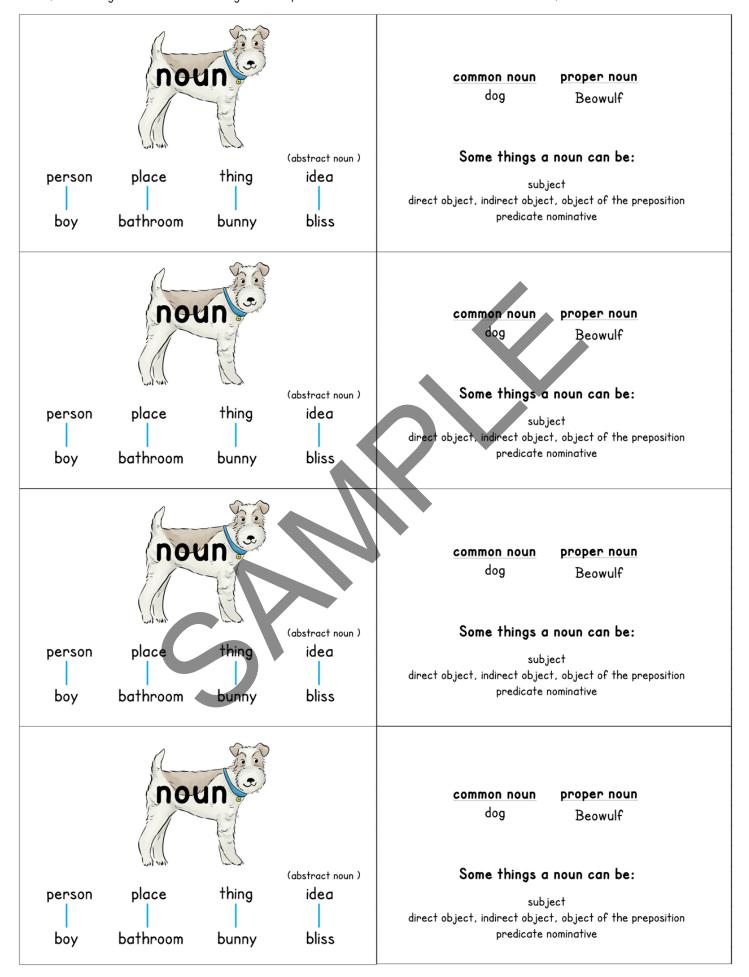
Cut out the pepperoni slices on the next page. Glue the pieces of pepperoni as flaps you can lift up. Underneath each piece, replace the pronoun with a noun. Example: If a piece of pepperoni says "she" on it, you can write a noun underneath the flap that the word "she" could replace, like Mom, Abigail, or girl.



Color and cut out the pepperoni slices. Paste them as flaps onto your pronoun pizza. Underneath each flap, write a noun (or nouns) that could be replaced by the pronoun on the top of the flap.

The dotted lines are where you fold to lift each flap up, once it has been attached to your pizza, and the glue has dried.







Adjectives can be in front of nouns and pronouns, or they can be somewhere else in a sentence. Take a look at these examples to see what I mean!

Usually an adjective is placed in front of the noun it describes.

However, sometimes adjectives are found in a different part of the sentence, like this:

the apple is **red**

In both cases, red is describing the apple.

In the examples below, draw an arrow from each bold adjective to the noun or pronoun it modifies (describes).

Example: Beowulf is cute. Cute babies played with toys on the floor.

- 1. interesting movie
- 3. **friendly** girl
- 5. during the dark night
- 7. We picked **beautiful** flowers.
- 9. Beowulf licked the **tasty** frosting.
- 11. Don't drink the sour milk.
- 13. What an awful illness!
- 15. my **kind** and **pretty** mom
- 17. The **stinky**, **red**, and **striped** socks

- 2. The movie was interesting.
- 4. She is **friendly**. *See how the adjective friendly is describing a pronoun, this time?
- 6. The night was dark.
- 8. The flowers were beautiful.
- 10. The frosting that Beowulf licked was tasty.
- 12. The milk is **sour**.
- 14. The illness was awful.
- 16. My mom is **pretty** and **kind**.
- 18. The socks are **stinky**, **red**, and **striped**.





9. Use this to correct your work on the previous page. Don't feel bad if you made some mistakes! If you got any wrong, do you understand why, after looking at the answers? yes no If you do, you've just taught yourself a little more! That's great! If you don't, that's not a problem, either! You can always look back at your previous work to figure out why. That's how you learn and become a GREAT student, instead of just a good one.



"Cotton-tail, fetch some chamomile!"

Peter said he thought he might feel better if he went

for a walk. They went away hand

in hand, and got upon the flat top





10. Change the position of the adjectives. The first one has been done for you.

adorable dog	The dog is adorable				
I love chocolate candies.	The candies are				
My dad is strong.	dad				
scruffy mutt	The mutt is				

Now, go back and circle each adjective. Draw an arrow to the noun it describes.





The word adverb comes from the Latin word "adverbium." Adverbium means "that which is added to a verb." Adverbs are added to verbs to give them more meaning. They also are added to adjectives and other adverbs.

You can remember adverbs modify 3 different things by writing the word ADVERB in all capital letters. Notice that the letter B looks like it has a 3 hidden in it!



Write the word adverb in all capital letters. Draw the hidden number 3 in the letter "B."

To find adverbs, just ask: how, when, where, how often, to what extent, or why?

Adverbs modify verbs.

Beowulf runs quickly.



How did Beowulf run? He ran quickly. See how the adverb "quickly" modifies the verb "runs?"

Adverbs modify adverbs.

Beowulf runs very quickly.

How quickly did Beowulf run? He ran *very* quickly. See how the adverb "very" modifies the adverb "quickly?"

Adverbs modify adjectives.

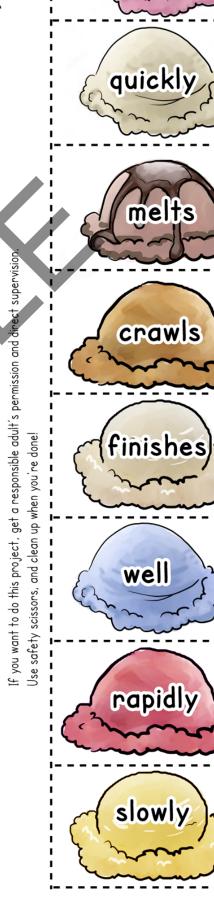


How bouncy is Beowulf? He is *very* bouncy. See how the adverb "very" modifies the adjective "bouncy?"

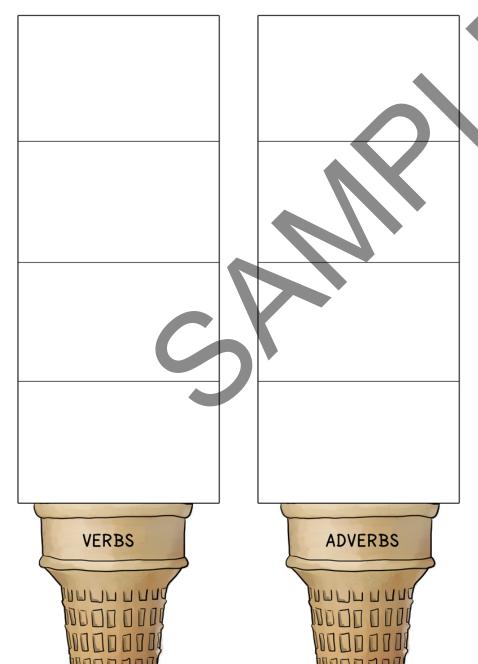
Cut out the scoops and put them in the correct cones. You can pair up the verbs and adverbs as you wish! For example, it would be correct to say something "runs quickly." It would also be correct to say something "runs slowly." Draw any additional toppings, like cherries, candies, sprinkles, or whipped cream, when you are finished!

Verbs can show action!

Adverbs can modify verbs!



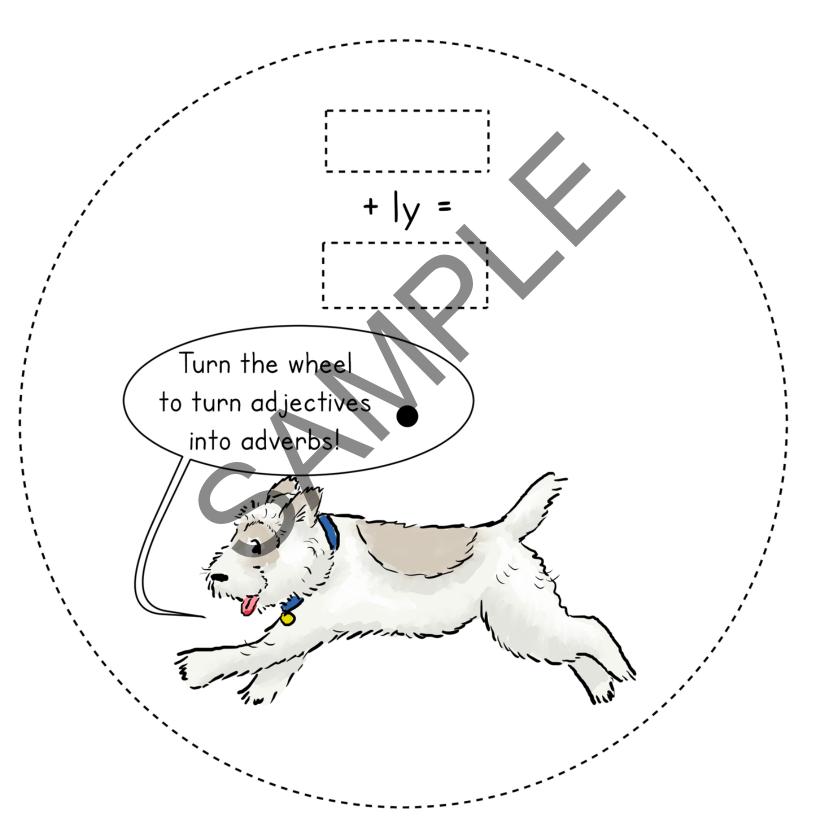
runs



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ADVERBY & ADJECTIVES

Cut out the wheels. Have an adult cut out the windows and attach the wheels with a brad. Spin the wheel to turn the adjectives into adverbs!







Grace plays! Bay-o plays!

Grace is a toddler, so she still speaks using "baby talk." Her simple sentences illustrate the base ingredients of a sentence: the subject and predicate. In her case, she often uses one noun as the subject and one verb as the predicate.

Grace's speech shows the most simple sentence structure you can make. You can clearly see that you only need two parts of speech to make a sentence. You need a noun (or pronoun) and a verb! These 2 parts put together equal a sentence.

gram<mark>mar rec</mark>ipe

NOUN

(or pronoun)

subject

VERB

predicate

Ihide You find!

Sentence or clause



subject (noun)



predicate (verb)





subject (noun)

predicate (verb)

plays!



I eat.

Daddy hugs.

Mama loves.

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The subject of a sentence tells who or what a sentence is about. Look at this example:

Beowulf peed on the carpet.

Who or what is this sentence about? Write your answer here:



I hope you didn't write carpet, because the carpet isn't who or what the sentence is about. The sentence is about Beowulf, because it's telling us what he did. (He really did pee on the carpet!) So, Beowulf is the subject of the sentence. Let's look at some other examples.

Mom cleaned up the mess.

Who or what is this sentence about? It's about mom and what she did. So, the subject of this sentence is Mom. Underline the subject.

Abigail got some paper towels for Mom.

Wait a second. Who is this sentence about? Is it about Abigail or Mom? Just ask yourself who is doing the action in the sentence. Abigail is. She is the one who got the paper towels. So, Abigail is the subject of the sentence. Underline the subject.

Dad put Beowulf outside.

Who or what is this sentence about? It's about Dad. Dad is the one who is doing something to Beowulf. Dad is putting him outside. So Dad is the subject of the sentence. Underline the subject.

A towel lay on the floor.

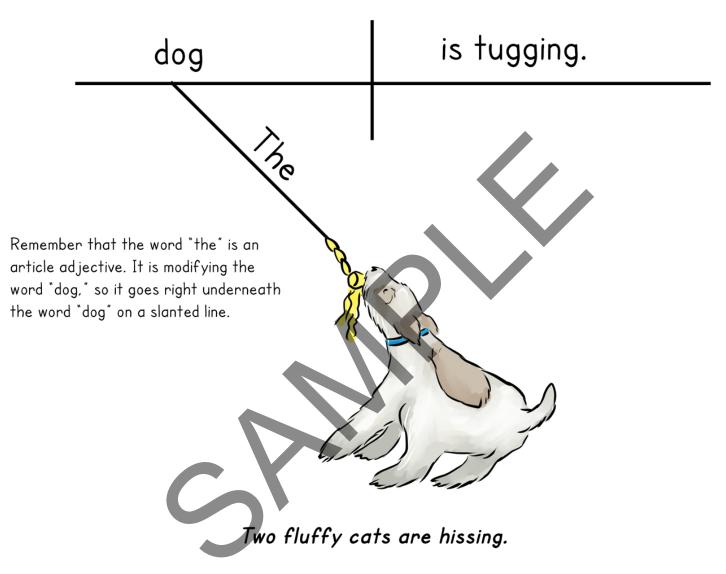
Who or what is this sentence about? It's about a towel. So, towel is the subject of the sentence. Underline the subject.

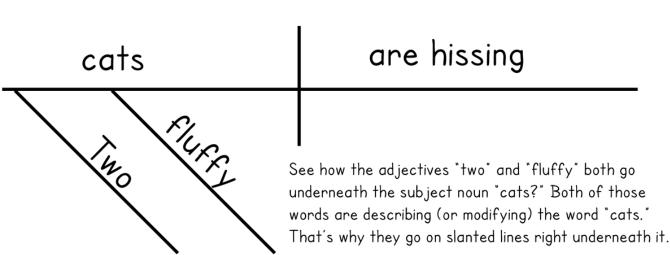
Subjects are usually easy to find. Remember to ask "who or what" the sentence is about.

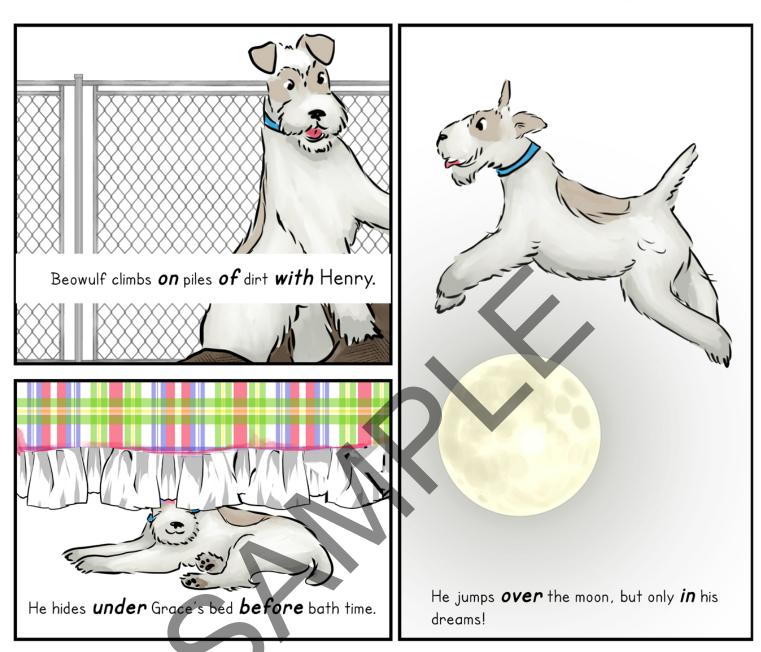


Adjectives go under the words they modify on a slanted line.

The dog is tugging.









Monday © GuestHollo							tHollow.	com	
1. Circle the	abstra	ct nouns	i:						
happiness	dog	pictu	res	anger	clouds	hone	sty	love	
2. Circle the	e pronou	ıns:							
he she	i†	sun	car	them	you	me	yard	we	Ι
3. What pro	noun sh	ould you	use fo	or someone	e with the	name J	enny?		
Circle the co	orrect d	inswer:	he s	he					
4. What pro	noun sh	nould you	use fo	or Beowuli	c?				
Circle the co	orrect d	inswer:	he s	he it					
5. Proper no correctly! Wednesday		rite you	ir favor	rite book t	itle. Make	e sure to	сору	the capito	al letters
1. A pronoun	takes	the place	e of a:						

2. Cross out the pronouns and write a name above them:

She walked in the forest with him.

Review - Weer 22

Friday

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1. Which ones are correct? Circle them.

Grace's bunny Grace's bunny

it's tail its tail

dolls's dress doll's dress

2. Which word shows possession (ownership)?

its it's

3. Is the bold word a pronoun or adjective?

Which dessert would you like to eat? pronoun adjective

4. How do you spell the plural of baby?

5. Fill in the diagram:

My best friend will visit today.

