

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Linking Verbs

A **linking verb** tells what the subject is or is like. It connects the subject to a word or words in the predicate that name or describe the subject.

Tom **is** a camp counselor.

His job **seems** fun.

Maggie **is** a forest ranger.

She **looks** happy.

Some Common Linking Verbs		
am	is	are
was	were	will be
has been	have been	had been
seem	appear	can be
become	look	feel
smell	taste	sound



## 1 Show What You Know

Read the sentences. Underline each linking verb.

There are twenty people in our group at summer camp. We are on a camping trip. Our backpacks have been ready for days. The camping trip will be fun.

The bus ride to the campground seems long. But everyone is excited now!

The air smells fresher in the country than anywhere else. The people at the campground are very friendly to us. We taste some fresh water from a nearby well. Fish seem to fly out of the river. The campers look surprised!



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## 2 Take It Up a Notch

Read the sentences. Circle the word or words in the predicate that the linking verb connects to the subject. Draw a line from the predicate to the subject.

I was happy at camp this summer.

My favorite activity was the nature walk.

Walking is excellent exercise.

I feel healthy when I walk.

A walk in the country seems ideal.

However, city walking is nice, too.

After the first snowfall, the air smells fresh and clean.

Soon, walkers will become happier and stronger.

They look healthy.

Walking is fun!



## 3 On Your Own

Write a description of something in nature without using its name. Use as many of your five senses—sight, smell, touch, hearing, and taste—as you can to describe it. In your description, use linking verbs. Be sure that each linking verb connects the subject with a word in the predicate. After you have completed your description, read it aloud to a friend. Ask your friend to guess what you have described.



### TFK Tips for Writers

When writing, pay attention to your choice of verbs. Some verbs can be used both as action verbs and as linking verbs. If you aren't sure if a verb is a linking verb, replace it with a form of the verb *to be*. If it makes sense, the verb is a linking verb.