

## Lesson Plan

### Vampire Verbs

**Book:** *Vampires*

**Series:** Mythical Creatures

**Level:** Beacon

### Objective

To help students practice forming the past tense of irregular verbs.

### Supplies

- *Vampires* book
- Whiteboard
- Pencils and paper

### Before the Activity

Read the *Vampires* book out loud to students. Create three columns on the whiteboard, labeling them “Past Tense,” “Present Tense,” and “Future Tense.”

### Activity

To start, review the three simple verb tenses with students:

- Past tense verbs are used to describe an action that has already happened.
- Present tense verbs are used to describe an action that is happening now.
- Future tense verbs are used to describe an action that will happen later.

To change a verb from present tense to future tense, you place the word *will* in front of the verb. Write the following examples in the appropriate columns on the whiteboard:

- walk → will walk
- change → will change

To change a verb from present tense to past tense, you add “-ed” to the end of the verb. If a verb already ends in “e,” you often just add the “d.” Write the following examples on the whiteboard, placing each verb in the appropriate column:

- walk → walked
- change → changed

However, there are many verbs that do not follow this pattern. These verbs are known as irregular verbs. Write the following examples on the whiteboard, placing each verb in the appropriate column:

- ran → run → will run
- came → come → will come
- knew → know → will know
- did → do → will do
- saw → see → will see
- flew → fly → will fly
- took → take → will take
- went → go → will go

These verbs still change when they are in the past tense, but their form changes in many different ways. Some verbs (such as *run*) stay fairly similar. Others (such as *go*) look very different. However, these words return to their regular form for future tense. Like the vampires described in the book, these verbs are shape-shifters: they change form, and then they change back.

To practice changing between these forms, have students write a short story. The story should be 10 sentences long. It should use each of the verbs on the whiteboard at least once. Students should write nine sentences using past tense, making sure to use the correct spelling for the irregular verbs. They should end their story with one sentence that uses a verb in future tense.

### **Evaluation**

Collect students' stories at the end of the activity. Give them 1 point for each sentence where the verb is the correct tense and uses the correct spelling, for a total of up to 10 points.

### **Standards**

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' language standards, grade 3 (L 3.1).