

Lesson Plan

Proofreading Practice

Book: *Labrador Retrievers*

Series: That's My Dog

Level: Beacon

Objective

To help students build proofreading skills by identifying and correcting spelling and grammar errors in a passage of text.

Supplies

- *Labrador Retrievers* book
- Proofreading Practice worksheet (attached)

Before the Activity

Read through the *Labrador Retrievers* book, or assign it to students to read on their own. Print one Proofreading Practice worksheet for each student.

Activity

After students have read the *Labrador Retrievers* book, have a large-group discussion about the publishing process. Explain that when we read a book, we are usually not reading the exact words the author wrote the first time. Instead, most books are revised or edited. The author writes one draft of a book. Then an editor reads it. Editors help authors revise their work. They also look for errors, such as misspelled words or incorrect grammar. This kind of editing is known as proofreading. Part of a proofreader's job includes looking up the names of specific people, places, or animals to make sure they are spelled correctly. Proofreaders also make sure that a word is spelled the same way throughout a book.

Today, the students get to be proofreaders. Give each student a Proofreading Practice worksheet. Explain that this worksheet contains text from Chapter 1 ("Meet the Labrador Retriever") of the *Labrador Retrievers* book. However, the text needs to be edited. It contains 15 spelling errors. Students should find and circle each error. They should also write the correct spelling above it. Remind students they can consult a dictionary if needed. The worksheet also includes some information that is different than the published version of Chapter 1. Students should find this information and underline it.

Evaluation

Collect the Proofreading Practice worksheets at the end of the activity. Using the attached answer key, give each student one point for identifying each misspelled word and one point for writing in the correct spelling. Give students 5 additional points for finding the sentences that do not appear in the published version of Chapter 1, for a total of 35 points.

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' language standards, grade 3 (L 3.2).

Proofreading Practice

Chapter 1

Meet the Labrador Retriever

The Labrador retriever is a pleasant companion. It is also a talented working dog. It is often called a Lab. Labrador retrievers love water. Many will even jump into puddles.

The Labrador retriever breed began in Newfoundland, Canada. Small dogs lived on this large island in the 1700s. They were strong swimmers. Hunters used them to retrieve game. Newfoundland dogs were another dog breed on the island. People crossed the small dogs with the Newfoundlands. Their puppies were the first Labrador retrievers.

Early Labs helped fishermen. The dogs pulled net out of the water. They also caught fish that escaped from fishing lines. Later, people crossed Labs with other breeds. These dogs included other retrievers, setters, and spaniels.

Today, Labs are one of the most popular breeds in the world. Labrador retrievers are friendly and smart. These traits make Labs great working dogs. Labs can be trained to hunt. They can guide the blind. Some Labs are therapy dogs. They comfort people. Police departments sometimes use Labs to sniff out criminals, too. The Lab's strong sense of smell makes this breed a great detective.

Many owners still take their Labs hunting. People everywhere love Labs. Labs love people of all ages. They are great dogs for families with kids. This breed is gentle and loyal. These characteristics make it an ideal pet.

Proofreading Practice Answer Key

Note for teachers: Errors and their corrections appear in bold. The underlined text does not appear in the printed version of Chapter 1. Highlighted text is part of the Chapter 1 special features or photo captions. Students should receive all 5 points whether or not they highlight this text.

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Early Labs helped fishermen. The dogs pulled **nest (nets)** out of the water. They also caught fish that escaped from fishing lines. Later, people crossed Labs with other breeds. These dogs included other retrievers, setters, and **spaniuls (spaniels)**.

Today, Labs are one of the most **populer (popular)** breeds in the world. Labrador retrievers are friendly and smart. These **trates (traits)** make Labs great working dogs. Labs can be trained to hunt. They can guide the blind. **Some Labs are therrapy (therapy) dogs. They comfort people.** Police departments sometimes use Labs to sniff out criminals, too. The Lab's strong sense of smell makes this breed a great detective.

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