

Name: _____

Action Verbs and Linking Verbs

Some verbs show action. Verbs such as *ran, hit, and jump* are called **action verbs**. Other verbs, such as *is, are, was, were, and am*, show a state of being. These verbs are called **linking verbs**.

Sometimes it helps to think of a linking verb as an "equals" sign. Here are some examples:

Mom is happy. Mom = happy. The word "is" is a linking verb.

We were busy. We = busy. The word "were" is a linking verb.

We ate lunch. We = lunch? No. The word "ate" shows action, so it is an action verb.

Circle the verb in each sentence below. In the space after each sentence, write "A" if the verb is an action verb, or "L" if the verb is a linking verb.

1. He kicked the football. _____
2. John ate the cake. _____
3. Mom was surprised. _____
4. Mike read the book. _____
5. Kim is happy today. _____
6. The dog ran after the ball. _____
7. He mailed the letter. _____
8. Ben won first prize at the fair. _____
9. She is tired today. _____
10. Josh rode his bike. _____
11. Emily dusted the furniture. _____
12. They are excited. _____
13. The lemon tastes sour. _____
14. Kittens are fun! _____