

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

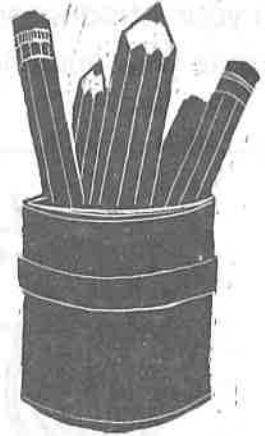


**The Myers Family**  
Independent Reading

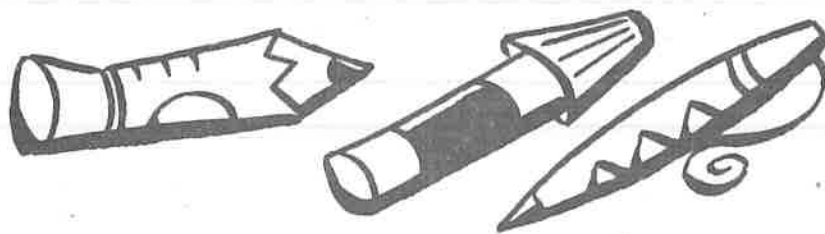
# The Myers Family

## Introducing the Myers!

Imagine that you are hosting a meeting of your book club. Your special guests are Walter Dean Myers and his son, Christopher. You will be introducing them. Prepare your introduction by listing facts about the author and illustrator in the chart. The following pages will help you focus on facts: 139–140, 142, and 144.



Walter Dean Myers	Christopher Myers
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**The Myers Family  
Independent Reading**

What opinion do you have of Walter Dean Myers and his son Christopher? How is their work inspiring or important? What do you think about their work and their relationship? In your introduction, state an opinion or two that will excite your audience. Support opinions with facts.



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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Reference Sources

**The Myers Family**  
Vocabulary Strategies:  
Reference Sources

- elastic**, *adj.* made of a stretchable fabric
- epidemic**, *adj.* widespread outbreak of an infectious disease
- expedite**, *v.* process quickly
- frugal**, *adj.* avoiding waste
- intercept**, *v.* to stop or interrupt
- majority**, *n.* an amount equal to more than half of the total
- simultaneously**, *adv.* occurring at the same time
- unearth**, *v.* to make known or public; to bring to light

Look at the meanings and parts of speech in the sample dictionary entries above. Choose a word to complete each sentence.

1. The clocks were set to chime \_\_\_\_\_ at exactly 12:00.
2. He hoped to \_\_\_\_\_ the secret before he returned to Mexico.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ band on the pants made them comfortable around the waist.
4. The Spanish flu of the early 1900s was an \_\_\_\_\_ that killed over 50 million people worldwide.
5. I needed to \_\_\_\_\_ the ball and block the goal.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the students voted to extend recess by half an hour.
7. I went to the post office and asked if they could \_\_\_\_\_ the delivery of the package.
8. He was \_\_\_\_\_ with his money and saved every dime.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Homophones

**The Myers Family**

Spelling: Homophones

**Basic** Write the Basic Word that best completes each analogy.

1. *Hospital* is to *administrator* as *school* is to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. *Mobile* is to *moving* as *immobile* is to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. *Brush* is to *paint* as *pencil* is to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. *Bear* is to *mammal* as \_\_\_\_\_ is to *shellfish*.
5. *Hero* is to *bravery* as \_\_\_\_\_ is to *fear*.
6. *Mechanic* is to *cars* as *doctor* is to \_\_\_\_\_.
7. *Blustery* is to *wintry* as *balmy* is to \_\_\_\_\_.
8. *Ears* is to *hearing* as *eyes* is to \_\_\_\_\_.
9. *Screen* is to *e-mail* as \_\_\_\_\_ is to *letter*.
10. *Bracelet* is to *wrist* as *belt* is to \_\_\_\_\_.
11. *Up* is to *down* as *wrong* is to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Challenge** Imagine you just took a trip through the desert. Write a journal entry telling about your trip. Use three of the Challenge Words. Write on a separate sheet of paper.

## Spelling Words

1. waist
2. waste
3. patience
4. patients
5. rite
6. right
7. write
8. muscle
9. mussel
10. principal
11. principle
12. summary
13. summery
14. sight
15. cite
16. site
17. stationary
18. stationery
19. coward
20. cowered

## Challenge

barren  
baron  
burrow  
burro  
borough

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Spelling Word Sort

**The Myers Family**

**Spelling:** Homophones

Write each Basic Word beside the correct heading.

<b>One syllable</b>	
<b>Two syllables</b>	
<b>Three syllables</b>	
<b>Four syllables</b>	

**Spelling Words**

1. waist
2. waste
3. patience
4. patients
5. rite
6. right
7. write
8. muscle
9. mussel
10. principal
11. principle
12. summary
13. summery
14. sight
15. cite
16. site
17. stationary
18. stationery
19. coward
20. cowered

**Challenge** Add the Challenge Words to your Word Sort.

**Connect to Reading** Look through “The Myers Family” from *Pass It Down*. Find words that sound alike but have different spellings and meanings. Add them to your Word Sort.

**Challenge**

- barren
- baron
- burrow
- burro
- borough

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Proofreading for Spelling

**The Myers Family**  
Spelling: Homophones

Find the misspelled words and circle them. Write them correctly on the lines below.

As we consider the life of Mr. Sung, the principel of our school for so many years, it is hard to wayst words praising his every decision. A sumary of his great career needs to do more than cight his degrees and awards. You can visit the school sitte for that information. We, the students, want to wryte down some of the things we admire about him.

His pateince was almost superhuman. He never used mucsle to enforce his rules. Mr. Sung oversaw the rit of passage into high school for more than five thousand students at our middle school. He was dedicated to the principal that every student deserved the same chance. When we cowerd in the corners, afraid to learn and to be ourselves, he was there to help us grow. We will be grateful to him forever.

## Spelling Words

1. waist
2. waste
3. patience
4. patients
5. rite
6. right
7. write
8. muscle
9. mussel
10. principal
11. principle
12. summary
13. summery
14. sight
15. cite
16. site
17. stationary
18. stationery
19. coward
20. cowered

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 7. _____  |
| 2. _____ | 8. _____  |
| 3. _____ | 9. _____  |
| 4. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 6. _____ |           |

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Singular and Plural Nouns

**The Myers Family**  
Grammar: Other Kinds of Nouns

A **singular noun** names one person, place, thing, or idea. A **plural noun** names more than one person, place, thing, or idea. Most times, a **regular plural noun** can be formed by adding **-s** to the end of a singular noun. However, if a singular noun ends with an *s*, *ss*, *x*, *ch*, or *sh*, add **-es** to the end of the word to form a plural. If a singular noun ends with a consonant + *y*, change the *y* to an *i* and add **-es** to form a plural. If a singular noun ends with a vowel + *y*, just add **-s**.

**Thinking Question**

Does this noun name more than one person, place, thing, or idea?

Singular	Plural
She sang a <u>song</u> .	How many <u>songs</u> did you sing?
I saw a <u>box</u> on the stage.	We need three <u>boxes</u> .
Greta's <u>story</u> was about the beach.	Greta's <u>stories</u> are usually about the beach.
My father wrote a <u>play</u> .	My father wrote three <u>plays</u> .

An **irregular plural noun** does not follow the usual rules for pluralization of a noun. Some examples are *feet*, *children*, *people*, and *mice*.

**Activity** Write the plural form of the noun in parentheses.

- In the play, children got to ride (pony). \_\_\_\_\_
- Julie went to three (opera) this summer. \_\_\_\_\_
- The painting includes (daisy). \_\_\_\_\_
- I am taking two dance (class) this summer. \_\_\_\_\_
- How many (person) are in your band? \_\_\_\_\_
- Barbara has flute lessons on (Saturday). \_\_\_\_\_
- The orchestra judges handed out the (trophy) to the winners. \_\_\_\_\_
- Grandpa has a collection of (oboe). \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Possessive Nouns

**The Myers Family**  
Grammar: Other Kinds of Nouns

A **possessive noun** shows who or what owns or has something. The possessive of a singular noun is formed by adding *'s*. The possessive of a plural noun is formed by adding *'s*. The possessive of a plural noun that does not end in *s*, such as *men*, is formed by adding *'s*.

**singular possessive noun**

That is my mother's flute.

**plural possessive noun**

Our friends' classes are on the other side of the stage.

**plural possessive noun that does not end in s**

The men's dressing room is downstairs

**Thinking Questions**

What is added to a singular noun to make it possessive? What is added to a plural noun to make it possessive?

**1-4. Write the possessive form of the noun in parentheses.**

1. I wonder how many of these drawings are (Maria). \_\_\_\_\_
2. The (play) third act lasts one hour. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Our (class) entry in the art contest came in second. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Their (families) art collections are worth millions. \_\_\_\_\_

**5-8. Rewrite each group of words using a possessive noun.**

5. the opening act of the ladies \_\_\_\_\_
6. the drawings of the children \_\_\_\_\_
7. the gift shop of the museum \_\_\_\_\_
8. the collar of the costume \_\_\_\_\_



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Common Errors

**The Myers Family**  
Grammar: Other Kinds of Nouns

The most common error when using plural and possessive nouns is incorrect use of the apostrophe.

Incorrect	Correct
My <u>costumes</u> colors are green and white.	My <u>costume's</u> colors are green and white.
Both <u>singers</u> backpacks were filled with sheet music.	Both <u>singers'</u> backpacks were filled with sheet music.
I bought some <u>souvenir's</u> at the museum gift shop.	I bought some <u>souvenirs</u> at the museum gift shop.
Only local <u>hen's</u> eggs are sold at the market.	Only local <u>hens'</u> eggs are sold at the market.

### Thinking Questions

What is added to a singular noun to make it possessive? What is added to a plural noun to make it possessive?

**Activity** Write the correct form of the underlined noun.

- The fans cheers were heard throughout the auditorium. \_\_\_\_\_
- We have three practice rooms' in our band hall. \_\_\_\_\_
- The orchestras director is a woman. \_\_\_\_\_
- Both play's staging was difficult. \_\_\_\_\_
- The parent's section of the audience was filled. \_\_\_\_\_
- After the concert, the bands went to their bus's. \_\_\_\_\_
- My mothers' sculptures are beautiful. \_\_\_\_\_
- Toms best paintings are of his family. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Using Commas and Colons

**The Myers Family**  
Grammar: Spiral Review

Uses for Commas	
<b>Introductory Words</b>	<b>Yes</b> , I have read that play by Joe Jones.
<b>Direct Address</b>	<b>Sam</b> , give us a summary of the play you read.
<b>Appositives</b>	Harlem, <b>a section of New York City</b> , is the setting of this musical.
<b>Series</b>	She gets up early, eats breakfast, and practices until noon.

Uses for Colons	
<b>Hours and Minutes</b>	Our drama class starts at <b>2:00</b> P.M., so don't be late.
<b>Introduce a List</b>	For the art assignment, you will need the following: some paper, two sharp pencils, and a good idea.
<b>After Greeting in Business Letter</b>	Dear Mr. Myers:

**1–5. Rewrite each sentence. Add commas and colons where needed.**

1. No I don't have a theater for my play yet.

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2. This year our class has written the following two short stories, five poems, and a play.

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3. The play a musical tells the story of a struggling young writer.

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4. Our first play rehearsal is from 9 00 A.M. to 1 30 P.M. on Saturday.

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5. Costumes props and lights will be planned by students.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Connect to Writing

**The Myers Family**  
Grammar: Connect to Writing

**singular noun**

**plural noun**

My neighborhood has three auditoriums.

**singular possessive**

I found the child's drawing under the sofa.

**plural possessive**

The girls' costumes were packed for them. The children's dog trotted after them.

**Rewrite each sentence using the correct form of the underlined words.**

1. Our teachers house has a music room in it.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. We were invited to one of the cast party.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Last summers musical theater performance was fun.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Some actors costumes were colorful.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Janes' mother sang a beautiful aria.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. We played scale's and arpeggios.

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Chairs were set up near the stages edge.

\_\_\_\_\_

8. The dancers hats were red and black.

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Focus Trait: Elaboration

## Creating Vivid Writing

**The Myers Family**  
Writing: Narrative Writing

One way to create writing that is interesting and engaging is to provide descriptive details and sensory language to explain story events.

Sentence with Basic Facts	Sentence That Allows the Reader to "See" and "Hear" the Events
The ballet dancer performed a show for the audience.	The ballerina floated gracefully across the stage and then bowed down as the audience gave her thunderous applause.

**Revise to create vivid sentences that paint a picture for the reader. Include descriptive and sensory details.**

1. Alice put on her make-up for the play.

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2. The girl created a picture for her story.

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3. The children liked the storyteller.

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4. The opera singer sang loudly.

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