

Decoding Dolphins

Grade Level: Grade 2 - 3

Language Arts Skills: Creative Writing, Editing, and Parts of Speech

Florida Sunshine State Standards:

Grade 2: LA.2.3.4.4, LA.2.3.4.5, LA.2.3.4.6, LA.2.4.1.2

Grade 3: LA.3.3.4.4, LA.3.3.4.5, LA.3.3.4.6, LA.3.4.1.2

Description:

Students will write a creative story about dolphins, leaving out different parts of speech in each sentence. They then give their story to a partner who fills in the missing parts of speech to create a full sentence. The students must work together to make sure that their new silly stories have subject-verb agreement, correct use of plurals and singulars, and correct punctuation.

Materials:

- Paper
- Pencil/Pen
- Eraser
- Tape or Magnets
- “My Day with the Dolphins”
- Past, Present, and Future Activity

Preparations:

Make enough copies of “My Day with the Dolphins” so that each pair of student has one. Prepare the “Past, Present, & Future” Activity according to the directions on the cover sheet.

Procedures:

Part One:

- 1) Review parts of speech prior to this activity.
- 2) Use the “Past, Present, & Future” class activity to review verb modification as a class.

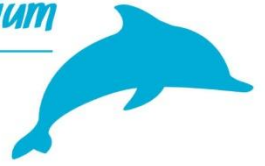
Part Two:

- 3) Pair students in groups of two.

- 4) Pass out one copy of “My Day with the Dolphins” to each pair of students. Have only one of the students look at the story.
- 5) Have one student read out the parts of speech required while the other student lists words that fit the criteria.
- 6) Have the other student read the story aloud to their partner. Allow the students time to correct verb tense and other errors.
- 7) Select students to read their stories aloud to the class.

Part Three:

- 8) Have each student write a creative short story about the dolphins. The story should be between one and two paragraphs. Make sure the story uses plenty of adjectives and adverbs. Have the students skip a line on their paper so that their story is double-spaced.
- 9) Once they are finished writing, have the students erase five nouns, three verbs, two adjectives, and one adverb from their story and put a line for a fellow student to write on.
- 10) On the space below each line, have the student label whether that line represents a noun, verb, adjective, or adverb.
- 11) Pair the students in groups of two.
- 12) Have one student read out the parts of speech required for their story while the other student lists words that fit the criteria.
- 13) Have the other student read the story aloud to their partner. Allow the students time to correct verb tense and other errors.
- 14) Repeat the same procedure with the author of the first story now filling in their partners’ missing parts of speech.
- 15) Select students to read their stories aloud to the class.



Past, Present, & Future

Purpose: Use this review to practice past, present, and future tense verb modifications with students.

White Board Directions: Tape or use magnets to attach the pictures on the following pages to the board. Cut out the words below and attach a piece of double-sided tape or a magnet the back of each. Have students take turns practicing modifying the sentences so that they are past tense, present tense, or future tense.

White Board & Projector Directions: Project the pictures on the following pages onto the board. Cut out the words below and attach a piece of double-sided tape or a magnet the back of each. Have students take turns practicing modifying the sentences so that they are past tense, present tense, or future tense.

Transparency Directions: Print the following pages on transparencies. Have students take turns using a dry-erase marker to modify the sentences so that they are past tense, present tense or future tense.

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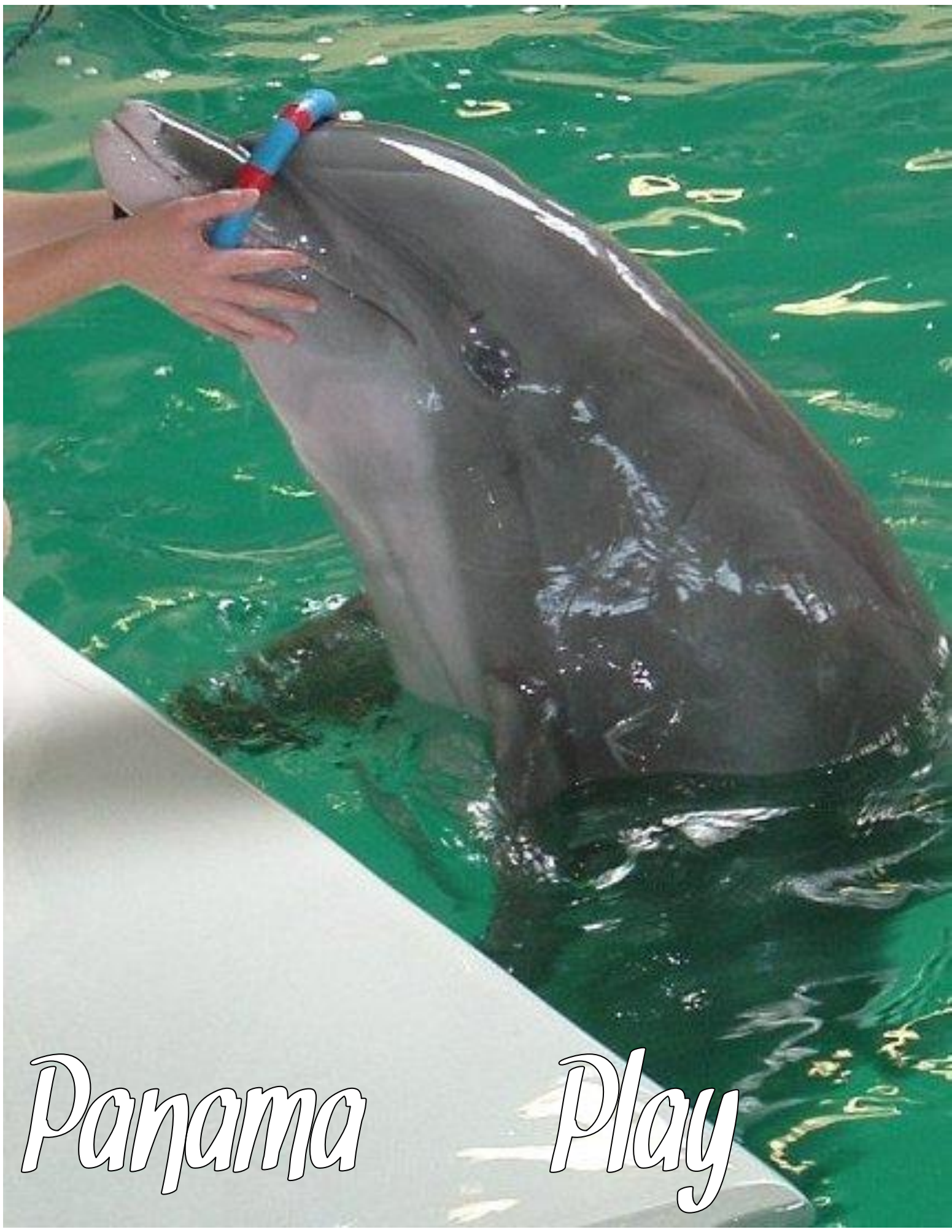
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WILL

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Panama

Play



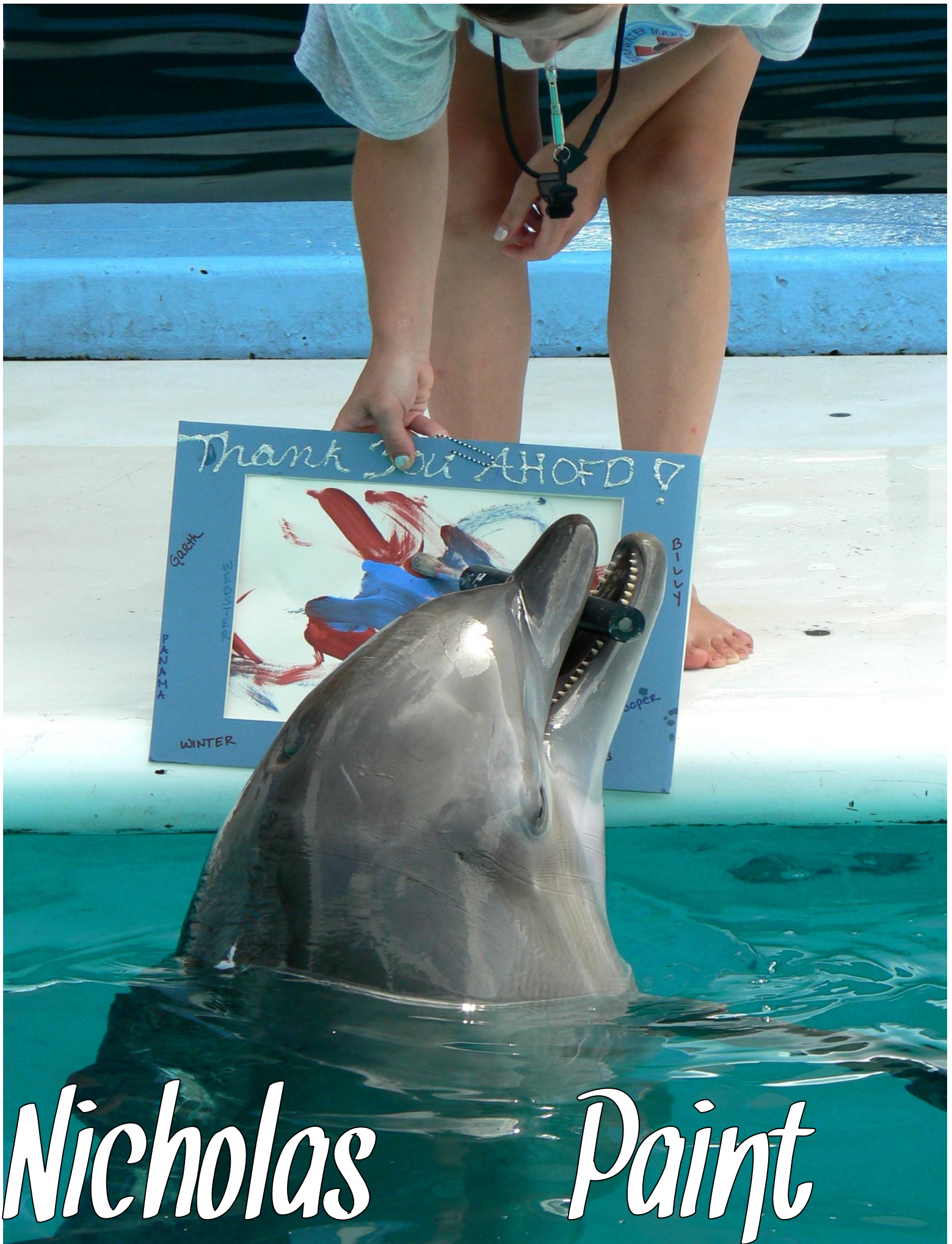
Wave

Winter

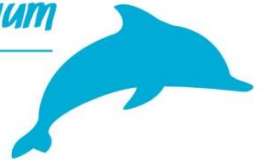


Jump

Hope



Nicholas Paint



My Day with the Dolphins

Name: _____

Directions: Do this activity with a partner. Ask your partner for the word type and fill in the blank. Then read your story aloud for a unique version of your day with the dolphins!

Caution: Make sure your partner's words are in the correct tense!

Today, I went to the Clearwater Marine Aquarium. While I was there, I

saw all kinds of things, like a _____ and some

Singular noun

_____. My favorite animals there were the _____

Plural noun

Adjective

dolphins. I saw them and I _____ because I was so excited!

Past tense verb

The dolphins were playing in their tank with _____ toys, like

Adjective

_____ and _____. After a while, the dolphin trainer

Plural noun

Plural noun

came out and the dolphins put on a show! They jumped and

_____. Everyone cheered _____ ! One man yelled

Past tense verb

Adverb

“ _____ ” and the dolphins _____ in return! At

Exclamation

Past tense verb

the end of the show, the trainers picked one _____ person to

Adjective

come down and give the dolphins a signal. I couldn't believe it when

they picked me! I told the dolphins to _____

Verb

_____and then gave them a fish. It was the best day ever!

AdVerb