GRAMMAR

Irregular past tense verbs

Name _____ Date _____

I can use irregular past tense verbs like ran, ate and saw.

1 The rule

Most verbs add -ed to tell about the past (walk, walked). Irregular verbs change in a special way (eat, ate; go, went).

Yesterday we **went** to the park and **ate** lunch.

2 Look and say



ate
I ate an apple.



swam
The fish swam.



flew
The bird flew away.

drank
I drank my milk.



wrote
I wrote a note.



rode
We rode our bikes.



made
Dad made a cake.



slept
The baby slept.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Sort the words

Name _____ Date _____

Read each past tense verb. Did it add -ed, or did it change? Write it in the right box.

1 Word bank

took | ate | washed | went | saw | made | helped | ran | talked | jumped | cooked | played

add -ed	irregular

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Find it in a sentence

Name _____ Date _____

Read each sentence. Circle the irregular past tense verb.

1. We went to the zoo.
2. Omar ate a sandwich.
3. The bird flew to its nest.
4. I saw a rainbow.
5. Zara wrote a letter.
6. The kids rode the bus.
7. Dad made pancakes.
8. The fish swam fast.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Write it

Name _____ Date _____

Today it happens. Yesterday it already happened. Write the past tense verb.

1. Today I go. Yesterday I _____.
2. Today I eat. Yesterday I _____.
3. Today I see. Yesterday I _____.
4. Today I swim. Yesterday I _____.
5. Today I write. Yesterday I _____.
6. Today I sleep. Yesterday I _____.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: irregular past tense verbs

1 Sort the words

add -ed: jumped, played, cooked, helped, talked, washed

irregular: ran, ate, went, saw, made, took

2 Find it in a sentence

1. went 2. ate 3. flew 4. saw 5. wrote 6. rode 7. made 8. swam

3 Write it

1. went 2. ate 3. saw 4. swam 5. wrote 6. slept

4 Teaching tip

Irregular verbs are learned by hearing and using them. Read aloud often, and play "Today I..., yesterday I..." with a ball toss: one child says the verb, the next says the past tense.

Watch for: Adding -ed to irregular verbs, as in "goed" or "eated". Repeat the sentence back correctly ("Oh, you went to the store?") rather than marking it wrong when children speak.

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