

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Adjectives and Articles

An **adjective** is a word that describes a noun or pronoun. An adjective usually comes before the word it describes, but it can also follow the noun or pronoun. Many adjectives answer the question *What kind?* They describe color, shape, size, sound, taste, touch, or smell. Other adjectives answer the question *How many?* or *Which one?*

**What Kind?** We ate fresh meat and eggs. Our appetites were good.

**How Many?** There were four children in the family.

**Which One?** That storm nearly sank the ship

*A*, *an*, and *the* are special adjectives called **articles**. *A* and *an* are used only with singular nouns. Use *a* before words that begin with a consonant sound. Use *an* before words that begin with a vowel sound or a silent *h*. *The* is used with both singular and plural nouns.

A kangaroo is an animal that hops.

The kangaroo jumped overboard, but the men rescued it.

- Proper adjectives are formed from proper nouns.

**Proper Nouns** Japan, Mexico, India

**Proper Adjectives** Japanese, Mexican, Indian

**Directions** Underline each adjective and circle each article.

1. *Sailing Home* describes an unusual family.
2. The children lived on a tall ship.
3. The family kept many animals.

**Directions** Decide what kind of question each underlined adjective answers. Write *What kind?* *How many?* or *Which one?*

4. Matilda smelled the salty air.

**What kind?**

5. She had three siblings.

**How many?**

6. This story is told by Matilda.

**Which one?**



**Home Activity** Your child learned about adjectives and articles. Ask your child to show you how adjectives answer the questions *What kind?* *How many?* and *Which one?*