

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Present, Past, and Future Tenses

Verbs can show when an action happens. This is called **tense**. Different verb tenses have different forms. Many present tense verbs end in *-s*. Form the past tense of many verbs by adding *-ed*. Add the helping verb *will* to a verb to make it a future tense verb.

**Present Tense**      A whale stays near the beach.

**Past Tense**        The whale jumped out of the water.

**Future Tense**     The other whales will jump out soon.

- When a verb ends with *e*, drop the *e* before adding *-ed*: *glide*   *glided*
- When a one-syllable verb ends with one vowel followed by one consonant, double the final consonant before adding *-ed*: *shop*   *shopped*
- When a verb ends with a consonant followed by *y*, change the *y* to *i* before adding *-ed*: *hurry*   *hurried*

**Directions** Tell the tense of the underlined verb in each sentence. Write *present*, *past*, or *future*.

1. I like the humpback whales. \_\_\_\_\_
2. You will enjoy the whales' music. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Those whales traveled from the Arctic Ocean. \_\_\_\_\_
4. They will return next year. \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions** Write the verb in ( ) that correctly completes each sentence.

5. Last year Sammy's class (learn, learned) about whales. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Whales cannot breathe underwater, so they (jump, jumped) out of the water for air.  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Each time a mother whale gives birth, she (stays, stayed) close to the baby for a year. \_\_\_\_\_
8. After a year, the baby (cared, will care) for itself.  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Home Activity** Your child learned about present, past, and future tenses. Ask your child to make up a sentence about something he or she saw on the way home from school and identify the tense of the sentence's verb.