

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. present
2. You will enjoy the whales' music. future
3. Those whales traveled from the Arctic Ocean. past
4. They will return next year. future

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

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



**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.