



AN ALL-STAR DAY



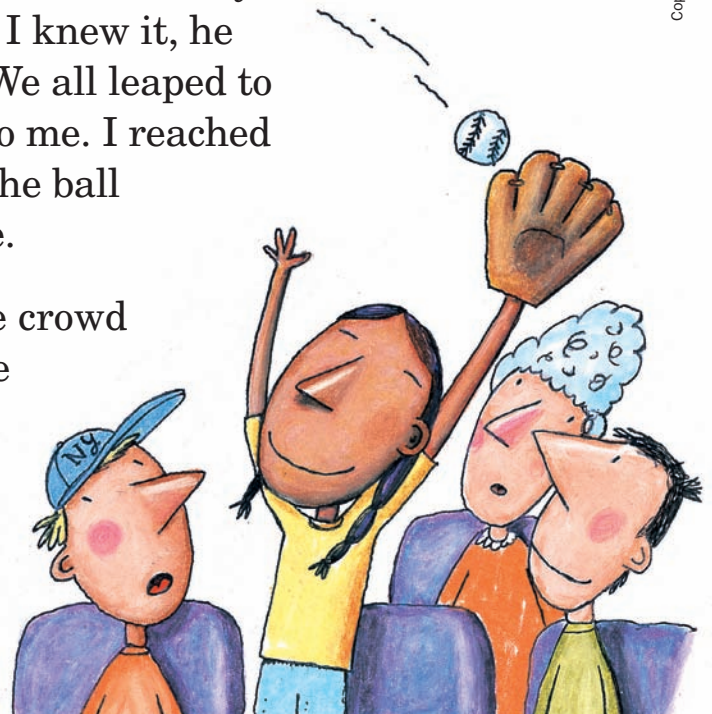
Writer's Tip

- Use vivid verbs to give your reader a mental picture.
- Use a thesaurus to find verbs that say exactly what you mean.

July 11, 2000, was the day. I went to the Home Run Derby at Turner Field in Atlanta. I was sitting in the upper deck. I had my glove with me, although I knew my chances of grabbing a ball were slim. But I waited on that humid night for luck to come my way. I slurped down my water to keep cool as I watched the balls rocket out of the park all night long.

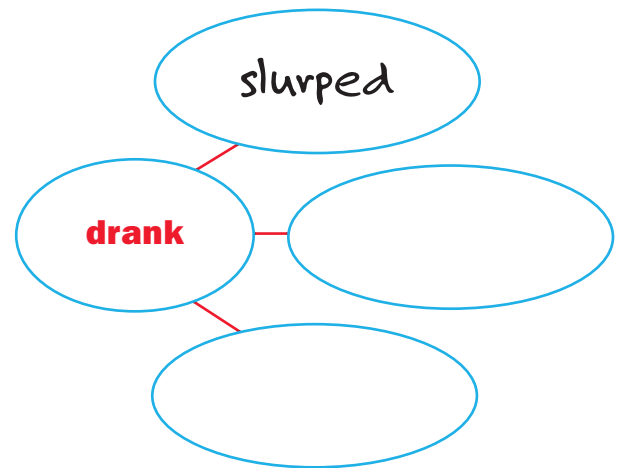
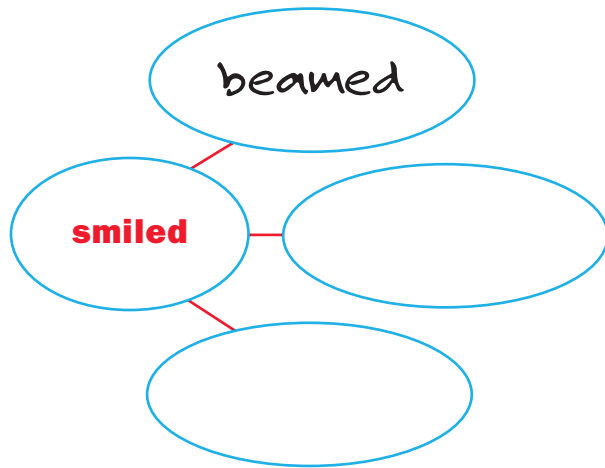
Then it was the final inning. Slammin' Sammy Sosa stepped up to the plate. Before I knew it, he ripped one right to the upper deck. We all leaped to our feet. The ball was sailing right to me. I reached up to the sky with my eyes closed. The ball slammed into the pocket of my glove.

I whooped and hollered with the crowd as I danced around. When I saw the TV camera spin in my direction, I held up my ball and beamed into the camera for the folks watching at home.



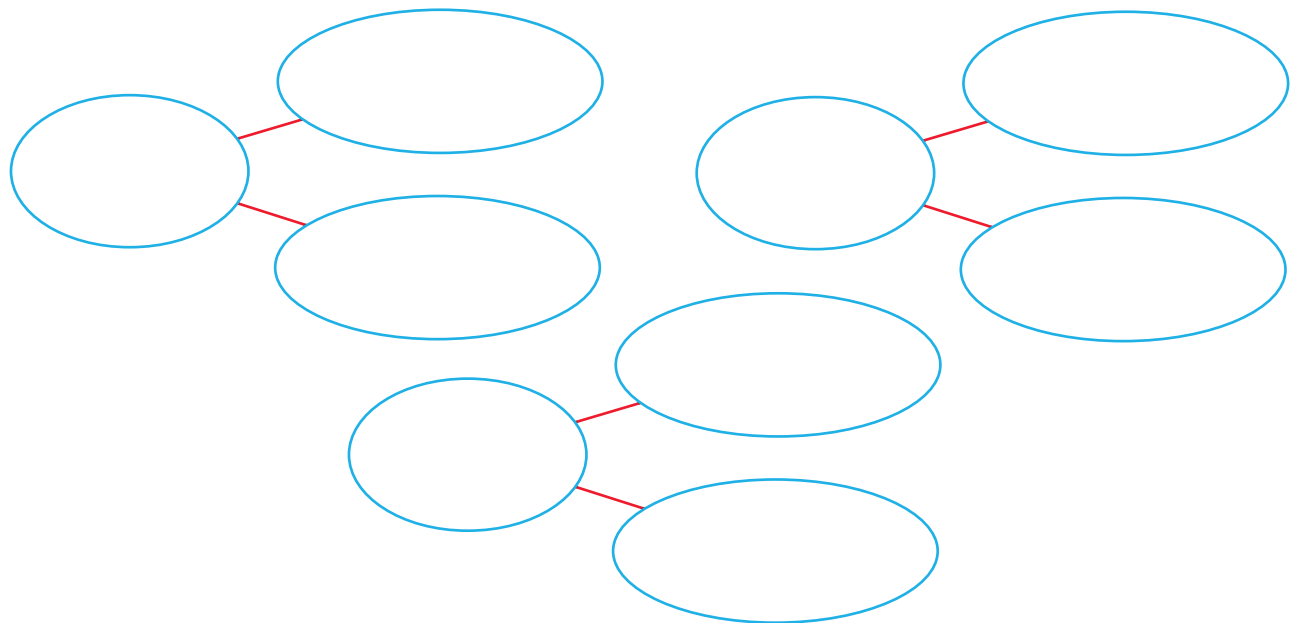
Vivid Verbs

▶ Reread the story and circle the vivid verbs. Then fill in the webs below with more vivid verbs that you could use instead.



Your Turn

▶ Think about the story you want to tell. Use the word webs to help you think of vivid verbs that best describe the actions in your story.



▶ Use the vivid verbs to write a paragraph about the action in your story.