Write It—Spell It

Pick six words from your class list and record them in the left column. In the right column, write a synonym for each word that's easier to spell, but not as specific or accurate.

Words From Our List	Synonyms That Are Easier to Spell

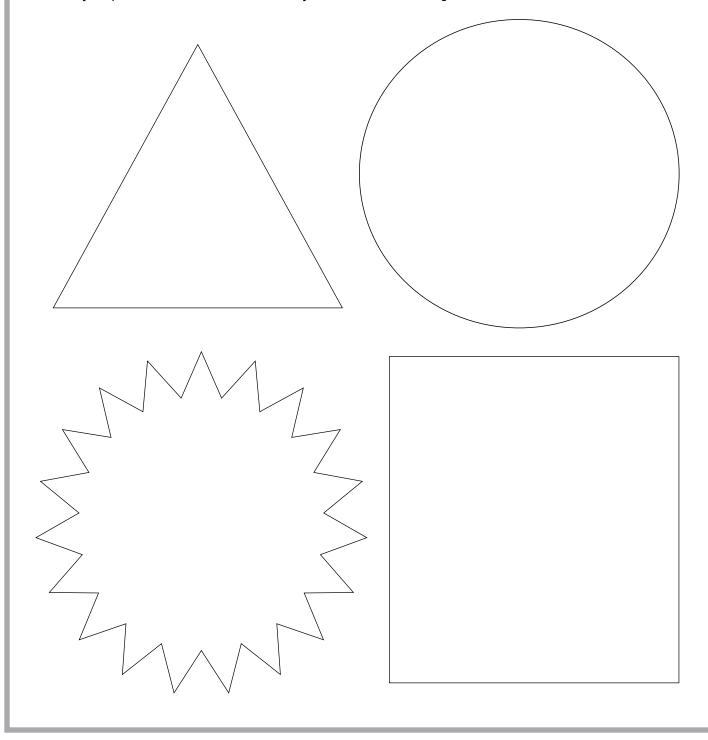
I Didn't Know That

Recall a historical event about zoos from *What's New? The Zoo!* and explain in writing why you think it's important. Use information from the book itself, as well as other print and online resources. Use the right words, and not necessarily the easiest words to spell.

- Did I use standard English spelling unless I chose not to for a good reason?
- Did I check words with ie and ei?
- When adding suffixes to words, did I change y to i, double the final consonant, or drop the silent e when necessary?
- Did I check my work for words I have trouble spelling?

All About Our Zoo

Write the text for the brochure about the best zoo that has ever been designed, using a variety of punctuation marks to make your work interesting to read.



Press Release

Using the information you gathered for the brochure, write a press release describing the great things about the zoo that people would want to know so they can plan a visit. Try a variety of punctuation techniques to make the press release as clear and easy to read as possible.

- Did I place quotation marks around dialogue and direct quotes?
- Did I punctuate complex sentences correctly?
- Did I use apostrophes to show possessives and contractions?
- Did I begin new paragraphs in the right places?

Capital Capitals

Find examples of your assigned capitalization rule in *What's New? The Zoo!* and write them in the boxes below.

Our Rule:	

Cut apart your examples and post them on the appropriate "Capitalization Rule" strip.

Same and Different

Explain the similarities and differences between any of the zoos described in *What's New?* The Zoo!, being careful to capitalize correctly. Ask yourself, "What do my chosen zoos have in common? What are some of their differences?"

- Did I capitalize proper nouns for people, places, and things?
- Did I capitalize dialogue correctly?
- Did I capitalize abbreviations, acronyms, and people's titles correctly?
- Did I capitalize the title and/or other headings?

Tense Sense

Using ideas from *What's New? The Zoo!*, write a series of sentences, some in present tense and some in past tense. Then swap papers with a partner and identify the tense of each sentence.

Sentence 1	Tense
Sentence 2	Tense
Sentence 3	Tense
Sentence 4	Tense
Sentence 5	Tense
Sentence 6	Tense

Dear Zookeeper

Write a letter or email informing a zookeeper about what zoos used to be like. Use the tense of your choice, present or past, to construct a well-written message full of facts from *What's New? The Zool* and other sources.

- Did I use special words such as homophones, synonyms, and antonyms correctly?
- Did I check my sentences for subject-verb agreement?
- Did I use verb tense (past, present, future) consistently throughout my piece?
- Did I make sure pronouns and their antecedents (the word they stand for) agree?