

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# **Suffix -ing.**

## **How the Camel Got Its Hump**

**by Rachel Weiss**

At the beginning of time, when the world was new, and animals were just beginning to work for man, there was a camel. The camel lived in the middle of the desert because he did not want to work. He ate sticks and thorns and prickly plants and he was especially lazy. Wherever anybody spoke to him, he said "Humph!" just "Humph!" and no more.

The horse came to the camel on a Monday morning, galloping as fast as he could and said, "camel, oh camel, come out and gallop like the rest of us." "Humph!" said the camel. The horse went away and told the man.

Then the dog came to the camel, with a stick in his mouth, and said, "camel, oh camel, come and fetch like the rest of us." "Humph!" said the camel. The dog went away and told the man.

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Next the donkey came to him, with a pack on its back and said, "camel, oh camel, come and carry like the rest of us." "Humph!" said the camel. The donkey went away and told the man.

**1. Match the words with their correct definitions.**

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| lazy    | a. Run fast, often to describe how a horse moves. |
| stick   | b. Not wanting to work or use any effort.         |
| prickly | c. A long, thin piece of wood                     |
| gallop  | d. Covered with sharp points or thorns.           |
| fetch   | e. To go and bring back something.                |

**2. Suffixes in English are a group of letters that we add to the end of a word. Circle the verbs in the text with the suffix *-ing*. What do you notice about the spelling?**

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**3. Write the verb + *-ing*. The first one has been done for you.**

- |           |                  |
|-----------|------------------|
| a. admit  | <u>admitting</u> |
| b. commit | _____            |
| c. throw  | _____            |
| d. beg    | _____            |
| e. study  | _____            |

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**4. Write your own ending to the story. How do you think the camel got its hump?**

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**5. Read “How the Camel Got Its Hump” in the Bookroom!**

