Intermediate

Word Ladders

Change ONE letter each step — grades 2-3 · with clues

Name _____ Date _____

Use the clues. Change **one letter** each step to make the word that matches the clue.

Ladder 1

	B	E	S	T	*Start here*
1					You wear it around your waist
2					It rings: ding-dong!
3					You kick or throw it in a game
4					One side of a room
	W	A	L	K	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	C	O	D	E	*Start here*
1					Ice cream goes on top of it
2					A stick that helps someone walk
3					A sweet treat with candles on your birthday
4					Lots of fresh water with land all around
	L	I	K	E	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	H	E	L	D	*Start here*
1					A big group of cows
2					The opposite of soft
3					It has four fingers and a thumb
4					Tiny grains you find on a beach
	S	E	N	D	*Finish here*

Intermediate · key

Word Ladders

Answer Key

Sample answers. Any ladder is correct if every step changes just one letter and makes a real word.

Ladder 1

	B	E	S	T	*Start here*
1	B	E	L	T	You wear it around your waist
2	B	E	L	L	It rings: ding-dong!
3	B	A	L	L	You kick or throw it in a game
4	W	A	L	L	One side of a room
	W	A	L	K	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	C	O	D	E	*Start here*
1	C	O	N	E	Ice cream goes on top of it
2	C	A	N	E	A stick that helps someone walk
3	C	A	K	E	A sweet treat with candles on your birthday
4	L	A	K	E	Lots of fresh water with land all around
	L	I	K	E	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	H	E	L	D	*Start here*
1	H	E	R	D	A big group of cows
2	H	A	R	D	The opposite of soft
3	H	A	N	D	It has four fingers and a thumb
4	S	A	N	D	Tiny grains you find on a beach
	S	E	N	D	*Finish here*

Intermediate

Word Ladders

Change ONE letter each step — grades 2-3 · with clues

Name _____ Date _____

Use the clues. Change **one letter** each step to make the word that matches the clue.

Ladder 1

	B	I	T	E	*Start here*
1					It has two wheels and pedals
2					To cook in an oven, like bread
3					Lots of fresh water with land all around
4					A narrow road
	L	A	N	D	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	M	O	V	E	*Start here*
1					A gentle bird that coos
2					To jump into water head first
3					Cubes with dots that you roll in games
4					Small white grains you cook and eat
	R	I	D	E	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	B	E	A	T	*Start here*
1					It floats and carries people on water
2					A tall shoe for rain or snow
3					It has pages for you to read
4					You can hang your coat on it
	H	O	O	D	*Finish here*

Intermediate · key

Word Ladders

Answer Key

Sample answers. Any ladder is correct if every step changes just one letter and makes a real word.

Ladder 1

	B	I	T	E	*Start here*
1	B	I	K	E	It has two wheels and pedals
2	B	A	K	E	To cook in an oven, like bread
3	L	A	K	E	Lots of fresh water with land all around
4	L	A	N	E	A narrow road
	L	A	N	D	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	M	O	V	E	*Start here*
1	D	O	V	E	A gentle bird that coos
2	D	I	V	E	To jump into water head first
3	D	I	C	E	Cubes with dots that you roll in games
4	R	I	C	E	Small white grains you cook and eat
	R	I	D	E	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	B	E	A	T	*Start here*
1	B	O	A	T	It floats and carries people on water
2	B	O	O	T	A tall shoe for rain or snow
3	B	O	O	K	It has pages for you to read
4	H	O	O	K	You can hang your coat on it
	H	O	O	D	*Finish here*

Intermediate

Word Ladders

Change ONE letter each step — grades 2-3 · with clues

Name _____ Date _____

Use the clues. Change **one letter** each step to make the word that matches the clue.

Ladder 1

	C	O	O	K	*Start here*
1					It has pages for you to read
2					A tall shoe for rain or snow
3					You put a sock on it
4					A strong building with walls to keep people safe
	F	O	R	M	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	M	E	E	T	*Start here*
1					Food that comes from animals
2					Breakfast, lunch or dinner
3					A sea animal with flippers and whiskers
4					The opposite of buy
	S	E	L	F	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	H	O	R	N	*Start here*
1					Yellow grains that grow on a cob
2					A piece of metal money
3					The part of your face under your mouth
4					A small piece broken off something
	S	H	I	P	*Finish here*

Intermediate · key

Word Ladders

Answer Key

Sample answers. Any ladder is correct if every step changes just one letter and makes a real word.

Ladder 1

	C	O	O	K	*Start here*
1	B	O	O	K	It has pages for you to read
2	B	O	O	T	A tall shoe for rain or snow
3	F	O	O	T	You put a sock on it
4	F	O	R	T	A strong building with walls to keep people safe
	F	O	R	M	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	M	E	E	T	*Start here*
1	M	E	A	T	Food that comes from animals
2	M	E	A	L	Breakfast, lunch or dinner
3	S	E	A	L	A sea animal with flippers and whiskers
4	S	E	L	L	The opposite of buy
	S	E	L	F	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	H	O	R	N	*Start here*
1	C	O	R	N	Yellow grains that grow on a cob
2	C	O	I	N	A piece of metal money
3	C	H	I	N	The part of your face under your mouth
4	C	H	I	P	A small piece broken off something
	S	H	I	P	*Finish here*

Intermediate

Word Ladders

Change ONE letter each step — grades 2-3 · with clues

Name _____ Date _____

Use the clues. Change **one letter** each step to make the word that matches the clue.

Ladder 1

	C	H	A	T	*Start here*
1					You wear it outside when it is cold
2					It floats and carries people on water
3					A tall shoe for rain or snow
4					You put a sock on it
	F	O	O	D	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	N	O	N	E	*Start here*
1					The number after eight
2					A tree with needles and cones
3					Mix red and white paint to get this
4					Where you wash your hands
	S	I	L	K	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	B	A	N	K	*Start here*
1					A group that plays music together
2					Tiny grains you find on a beach
3					To make a letter go to someone
4					A new plant grows from this
	F	E	E	D	*Finish here*

Intermediate · key

Word Ladders

Answer Key

Sample answers. Any ladder is correct if every step changes just one letter and makes a real word.

Ladder 1

	C	H	A	T	*Start here*
1	C	O	A	T	You wear it outside when it is cold
2	B	O	A	T	It floats and carries people on water
3	B	O	O	T	A tall shoe for rain or snow
4	F	O	O	T	You put a sock on it
	F	O	O	D	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	N	O	N	E	*Start here*
1	N	I	N	E	The number after eight
2	P	I	N	E	A tree with needles and cones
3	P	I	N	K	Mix red and white paint to get this
4	S	I	N	K	Where you wash your hands
	S	I	L	K	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	B	A	N	K	*Start here*
1	B	A	N	D	A group that plays music together
2	S	A	N	D	Tiny grains you find on a beach
3	S	E	N	D	To make a letter go to someone
4	S	E	E	D	A new plant grows from this
	F	E	E	D	*Finish here*

Intermediate

Word Ladders

Change ONE letter each step — grades 2-3 · with clues

Name _____ Date _____

Use the clues. Change **one letter** each step to make the word that matches the clue.

Ladder 1

	H	A	R	M	*Start here*
1					The opposite of soft
2					It has four fingers and a thumb
3					A group that plays music together
4					A safe place to keep money
	T	A	N	K	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	R	U	L	E	*Start here*
1					An animal that is half horse, half donkey
2					A small animal that digs tunnels underground
3					An opening dug in the ground
4					The place where you live
	S	O	M	E	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	C	O	S	T	*Start here*
1					You wear it outside when it is cold
2					A black rock that burns to make heat
3					A little bit cold
4					To make food hot and ready to eat
	L	O	O	K	*Finish here*

Intermediate · key

Word Ladders

Answer Key

Sample answers. Any ladder is correct if every step changes just one letter and makes a real word.

Ladder 1

	H	A	R	M	*Start here*
1	H	A	R	D	The opposite of soft
2	H	A	N	D	It has four fingers and a thumb
3	B	A	N	D	A group that plays music together
4	B	A	N	K	A safe place to keep money
	T	A	N	K	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	R	U	L	E	*Start here*
1	M	U	L	E	An animal that is half horse, half donkey
2	M	O	L	E	A small animal that digs tunnels underground
3	H	O	L	E	An opening dug in the ground
4	H	O	M	E	The place where you live
	S	O	M	E	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	C	O	S	T	*Start here*
1	C	O	A	T	You wear it outside when it is cold
2	C	O	A	L	A black rock that burns to make heat
3	C	O	O	L	A little bit cold
4	C	O	O	K	To make food hot and ready to eat
	L	O	O	K	*Finish here*

Intermediate

Word Ladders

Change ONE letter each step — grades 2-3 · with clues

Name _____ Date _____

Use the clues. Change **one letter** each step to make the word that matches the clue.

Ladder 1

	C	O	M	E	*Start here*
1					The place where you live
2					An opening dug in the ground
3					To keep something in your hands
4					A shiny yellow metal
	G	O	L	F	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	C	L	I	P	*Start here*
1					A small piece broken off something
2					A very big boat
3					A place where you buy things
4					To let someone see something
	S	L	O	W	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	H	I	K	E	*Start here*
1					It has two wheels and pedals
2					To cook in an oven, like bread
3					A sweet treat with candles on your birthday
4					A box with bars for a pet bird
	P	A	G	E	*Finish here*

Intermediate · key

Word Ladders

Answer Key

Sample answers. Any ladder is correct if every step changes just one letter and makes a real word.

Ladder 1

	C	O	M	E	*Start here*
1	H	O	M	E	The place where you live
2	H	O	L	E	An opening dug in the ground
3	H	O	L	D	To keep something in your hands
4	G	O	L	D	A shiny yellow metal
	G	O	L	F	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	C	L	I	P	*Start here*
1	C	H	I	P	A small piece broken off something
2	S	H	I	P	A very big boat
3	S	H	O	P	A place where you buy things
4	S	H	O	W	To let someone see something
	S	L	O	W	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	H	I	K	E	*Start here*
1	B	I	K	E	It has two wheels and pedals
2	B	A	K	E	To cook in an oven, like bread
3	C	A	K	E	A sweet treat with candles on your birthday
4	C	A	G	E	A box with bars for a pet bird
	P	A	G	E	*Finish here*

Intermediate

Word Ladders

Change ONE letter each step — grades 2-3 · with clues

Name _____ Date _____

Use the clues. Change **one letter** each step to make the word that matches the clue.

Ladder 1

	M	I	L	E	*Start here*
1					A white drink that comes from cows
2					Shiny cloth woven from a caterpillar's thread
3					Where you wash your hands
4					To make music with your voice
	S	O	N	G	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	C	O	O	L	*Start here*
1					To make food hot and ready to eat
2					You can hang your coat on it
3					The part of a coat that covers your head
4					To keep something in your hands
	S	O	L	D	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	F	I	N	E	*Start here*
1					The number after eight
2					Not even one
3					You smell with it
4					The opposite of win
	L	O	S	T	*Finish here*

Intermediate · key

Word Ladders

Answer Key

Sample answers. Any ladder is correct if every step changes just one letter and makes a real word.

Ladder 1

	M	I	L	E	*Start here*
1	M	I	L	K	A white drink that comes from cows
2	S	I	L	K	Shiny cloth woven from a caterpillar's thread
3	S	I	N	K	Where you wash your hands
4	S	I	N	G	To make music with your voice
	S	O	N	G	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	C	O	O	L	*Start here*
1	C	O	O	K	To make food hot and ready to eat
2	H	O	O	K	You can hang your coat on it
3	H	O	O	D	The part of a coat that covers your head
4	H	O	L	D	To keep something in your hands
	S	O	L	D	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	F	I	N	E	*Start here*
1	N	I	N	E	The number after eight
2	N	O	N	E	Not even one
3	N	O	S	E	You smell with it
4	L	O	S	E	The opposite of win
	L	O	S	T	*Finish here*

Intermediate

Word Ladders

Change ONE letter each step — grades 2-3 · with clues

Name _____ Date _____

Use the clues. Change **one letter** each step to make the word that matches the clue.

Ladder 1

	H	O	O	K	*Start here*
1					The part of a coat that covers your head
2					The opposite of bad
3					A shiny yellow metal
4					A game where you hit a ball into holes
	W	O	L	F	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	S	A	I	D	*Start here*
1					Cloth on a boat that catches the wind
2					A happy dog wags it
3					The opposite of short
4					One side of a room
	W	I	L	L	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	L	A	M	B	*Start here*
1					It gives light on a table or desk
2					To sleep outside in a tent
3					The dog ___ when I called it.
4					A big hole in the side of a hill
	W	A	V	E	*Finish here*

Intermediate · key

Word Ladders

Answer Key

Sample answers. Any ladder is correct if every step changes just one letter and makes a real word.

Ladder 1

	H	O	O	K	*Start here*
1	H	O	O	D	The part of a coat that covers your head
2	G	O	O	D	The opposite of bad
3	G	O	L	D	A shiny yellow metal
4	G	O	L	F	A game where you hit a ball into holes
	W	O	L	F	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	S	A	I	D	*Start here*
1	S	A	I	L	Cloth on a boat that catches the wind
2	T	A	I	L	A happy dog wags it
3	T	A	L	L	The opposite of short
4	W	A	L	L	One side of a room
	W	I	L	L	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	L	A	M	B	*Start here*
1	L	A	M	P	It gives light on a table or desk
2	C	A	M	P	To sleep outside in a tent
3	C	A	M	E	The dog ___ when I called it.
4	C	A	V	E	A big hole in the side of a hill
	W	A	V	E	*Finish here*

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Word Ladders

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Name _____ Date _____

Use the clues. Change **one letter** each step to make the word that matches the clue.

Ladder 1

	N	O	T	E	*Start here*
1					You smell with it
2					A flower with thorns on its stem
3					To go up, like the sun in the morning
4					To sit on a bike or horse and go
	S	I	D	E	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	B	A	L	L	*Start here*
1					It rings: ding-dong!
2					The opposite of buy
3					A sea animal with flippers and whiskers
4					To get better after a cut or scrape
	H	E	A	R	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	P	I	C	K	*Start here*
1					Mix red and white paint to get this
2					Where you wash your hands
3					To make music with your voice
4					A bird uses it to fly
	W	I	N	D	*Finish here*

Intermediate · key

Word Ladders

Answer Key

Sample answers. Any ladder is correct if every step changes just one letter and makes a real word.

Ladder 1

	N	O	T	E	*Start here*
1	N	O	S	E	You smell with it
2	R	O	S	E	A flower with thorns on its stem
3	R	I	S	E	To go up, like the sun in the morning
4	R	I	D	E	To sit on a bike or horse and go
	S	I	D	E	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	B	A	L	L	*Start here*
1	B	E	L	L	It rings: ding-dong!
2	S	E	L	L	The opposite of buy
3	S	E	A	L	A sea animal with flippers and whiskers
4	H	E	A	L	To get better after a cut or scrape
	H	E	A	R	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	P	I	C	K	*Start here*
1	P	I	N	K	Mix red and white paint to get this
2	S	I	N	K	Where you wash your hands
3	S	I	N	G	To make music with your voice
4	W	I	N	G	A bird uses it to fly
	W	I	N	D	*Finish here*

Intermediate

Word Ladders

Change ONE letter each step — grades 2-3 · with clues

Name _____ Date _____

Use the clues. Change **one letter** each step to make the word that matches the clue.

Ladder 1

	B	E	L	T	*Start here*
1					It rings: ding-dong!
2					Please ___ me a story.
3					The opposite of short
4					A happy dog wags it
	M	A	I	L	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	D	E	E	P	*Start here*
1					A wild animal; the male has antlers
2					Often the first word of a letter
3					A big furry animal that loves honey
4					A seed from a pod that you can eat
	L	E	A	N	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	B	O	L	D	*Start here*
1					A shiny yellow metal
2					The opposite of bad
3					What trees are made of
4					Soft stuff that comes from sheep
	P	O	O	L	*Finish here*

Intermediate · key

Word Ladders

Answer Key

Sample answers. Any ladder is correct if every step changes just one letter and makes a real word.

Ladder 1

	B	E	L	T	*Start here*
1	B	E	L	L	It rings: ding-dong!
2	T	E	L	L	Please ___ me a story.
3	T	A	L	L	The opposite of short
4	T	A	I	L	A happy dog wags it
	M	A	I	L	*Finish here*

Ladder 2

	D	E	E	P	*Start here*
1	D	E	E	R	A wild animal; the male has antlers
2	D	E	A	R	Often the first word of a letter
3	B	E	A	R	A big furry animal that loves honey
4	B	E	A	N	A seed from a pod that you can eat
	L	E	A	N	*Finish here*

Ladder 3

	B	O	L	D	*Start here*
1	G	O	L	D	A shiny yellow metal
2	G	O	O	D	The opposite of bad
3	W	O	O	D	What trees are made of
4	W	O	O	L	Soft stuff that comes from sheep
	P	O	O	L	*Finish here*