Doers and receivers: answers and notes

What your child practised: finding the subject (doer) and object (receiver) of a sentence.

Page 1 · Warm up

1. **Leo** · 2. **the girls** (not "After lunch")

Page 2 · Try it together

Answers will vary. The subject does the action; the object has it done to it.

Page 2 · A. Subject and object

1. **Mia** / **the rabbit**
2. **The wind** / **the leaves**
3. **Sam** / **the dog**
4. **a bee** / **Leo**
5. **The children** / **a huge sandcastle**

Page 3 · B. Subject and object

1. **the actors** / **sandwiches**
2. **the cat** / **the birds**
3. **Ava's class** / **the museum**
4. **a storm** / **our fence**

Page 3 · C. Swap them

1. The hen chased the fox. **No**: now the hen is doing the chasing.
2. Mia helped Leo with her coat. **No**: now Mia is the helper.

Page 3 · D. Your own sentence

Answers will vary, e.g. "At the park, Mia threw **(a frisbee)**."

Challenge: No, Sam isn't right. "This morning" tells us *when*; it isn't doing anything. Find the verb (**broke**) and ask "Who broke?" **My brother** is the subject. "My brother broke what?" **The window** is the object.

Watch out for

- **Thinking the first word is always the doer.** In "Yesterday, the cat scratched the sofa", ask: "Is *yesterday* scratching?" Always find the verb first, then ask who or what did it.
- **Mixing up who does it and who receives it.** Act it out with toys: the one that moves is the doer. Swapping them changes the meaning (Practise C).
- **Sentences with no object**, like "Mia laughed." Some verbs don't need a receiver, so these can't be made passive later.

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Doer detectives:** while reading a bedtime story, ask "Who's doing it? Who's it happening to?"
- **Silly swaps:** swap the doer and receiver in a sentence ("The mouse chased the cat!").
- **In the game:** Act 2, Flip it!, moves the receiver to the front of the sentence to make the passive.