

# R-Controlled Vowels and the Fork in the Road

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

- If the letter "r" comes after a vowel, the sound of the **vowel** changes.
- In words like: **shark, her, girl, worm,** and **hurt**, each vowel is different, but they make the **same "er" sound**. Those vowel sounds vary slightly from typical short vowel sounds, like these: **cap, help, pick, woman,** and **hump**.

**1)** Read the following passage which includes five mismatched words.

**2)** Use context clues to identify and cross out the mismatched words.

**3)** Write the correct\* replacement word above the mismatched word.

\* Hints: correct replacement words have **similar spellings** and include an **r-controlled vowel pattern**.

On the way back from a walking field trip, Mr. Marigold's math class came to a tree at a fork on the trail. Mr. Marigold barked at everyone to, "Halt!"

Mr. Marigold's head began to hurt as he thought to himself, "I can't bear to tell the kids I fear we might be lost."

"What's up Mr. M?" asked Marcus Merriweather who'd begun sketching a bird perched on a nearby branch.

"Well, my dear boy, I seem to be confused as to which trail takes us back to Bindlestiff Elementary," he replied. Suddenly Marcus remembered and mentioned, "Mr. M, you asked the class to, 'Please remember the tree at the split with the burn on its bank from last year's lightning storm,' because it pointed back from where we entered the park!"

"Well done!" exclaimed Mr. Marigold confirming Marcus' comment while examining the tree a little closer.