

The twins **like** chocolate ice cream.
 The pupils **study** the countries of Africa.
 We **enjoy** watching the birds.
 The girls **rub** soap over the clothes.

The second principal part is the **past** form. It may also be called the **simple past form**. This form is used for the past tense.

Be sure to spell past forms correctly. Study the following rules for spelling the past forms of regular verbs.

- a. For most regular verbs, simply add **-ed** to the present form.

Present: We **help** Mother with the dishes.
Past: We **helped** Mother with the dishes.

- b. If a verb ends with **e**, drop the **e** before adding **-ed**.

Present: The twins **like** chocolate ice cream.
Past: The twins **liked** chocolate ice cream.

- c. If a verb ends with **y** after a consonant, change the **y** to **i** and add **-ed**.

Present: The pupils **study** the countries of Africa.
Past: They **studied** the countries of Asia last year.

- d. If a verb ends with **y** after a vowel, simply add **-ed**.

Present: We **enjoy** watching the birds.
Past: We **enjoyed** watching the birds.

- e. If a one-syllable verb ends with a single consonant after a short vowel, double the final consonant before adding **-ed**.

Present: The girls **rub** soap over the clothes.
Past: The girls **rubbed** soap over the clothes.

Notice how verb **tenses** are different from verb **forms**. Different verb tenses are the different **times** that verbs tell about

For simple reference, each of the composition lessons is marked by a design along the outside page margin.

Teach the following points.

1. **A verb has three principal parts.** These are the three main forms of a verb, and they are used for various tenses.

2. **The first principal part is the present form.** This form is used for the present tense of a verb.

help promise carry stay drag

3. **The second principal part is the past form.** (It was called the simple past form in grade 4.) The past form is used for the past tense.

Past forms must be spelled correctly.

- a. For most regular verbs, simply add **-ed** to the present form.

helped worked

- b. If a verb ends with **e**, drop the **e** before adding **-ed**.

like—liked promise—promised

- c. If a verb ends with **y** after a consonant, change the **y** to **i** before adding **-ed**.

carry—carried study—studied

- d. If a verb ends with **y** after a vowel, simply add **-ed**.

stay—stayed enjoy—enjoyed

- e. If a one-syllable verb ends with a single consonant after a short vowel, double the final consonant before adding **-ed**.

drag—dragged rub—rubbed

4. **The third principal part is the past participle.** (It was called the helper form in grade 4.) This form often tells about something that has already happened and is finished.

In regular verbs, the past participle is formed in the same way as the past form: by adding **-ed** to