

## Action and Linking Verbs

A complete sentence has a subject and a predicate. The main word in the predicate is a **verb**. An **action verb** tells what the subject does.

The little boy *cried* often.

A **linking verb** links, or joins, the subject to a word or words in the predicate. It tells what the subject is or is like.

He *seemed* very quiet. He *was* a good sport.

- Action verbs show actions that are physical (*hike, build*) or mental (*remember, approve*).
- Common linking verbs are forms of the verb *be* (*am, is, are, was, were*).
- These verbs can be linking verbs: *become, seem, appear, feel, taste, smell, and look*.

The cake *appears* fresh. It *looks* tasty.

However, some of them can also be used as action verbs.

A boy *appeared* suddenly. He *looked* at the food.