

Name: _____ Date: _____

Possessives Scavenger Hunt

Directions: Review the rules for using apostrophes to form possessives. (The possessive form of a word shows ownership.) Then complete the scavenger hunt below. You'll be hunting through the December 2017/January 2018 issue of *Scope*.

Rules for Using Apostrophes to Form Possessives

- 1. To make a singular noun (like *dog*) possessive, add 's to the end.**

Example: "Bright-orange lava boils at the volcano's peak . . ."

▶▶ **Add 's even if the noun ends with s.**

Example: ". . . the goddess's wrath is to blame."

- 2. To make a plural noun (like *kids*) possessive, add an apostrophe after the s that is already at the end of the word.**

Example: "The idea that rock-snatchers' lives are being ruined . . ."

- 3. To make a collective noun (a noun that treats a group as one thing, like *audience, family, or team*) or a plural noun that does not end in s (like *children or mice*) possessive, add 's to the end of the word.**

Example: "Yet in many people's minds . . ."

- 1.** Go to page 26 in the debate "Finders Keepers?" Find a possessive and write it on the line below.

Possessive: _____

Which rule from the box above was followed to form this possessive?
(Check one.)

Rule 1

Rule 2

Rule 3

- 2.** Go to page 25 in the article "Could This Dragon Save Your Life?" Find TWO possessive forms of the SAME noun. Write them here:

Possessive 1: _____

Possessive 2: _____

Explain the difference in meaning between the two possessives you just wrote down.

3. Go to page 14 in "Could You Become a Mean Meme?" Read the very first sentence on the page.

Another way of expressing this idea is to say that _____ risk of public humiliation is greater now than it was in the past. (Fill in the blank with a possessive.)

4. Go to page 6 in "Escape From Alcatraz." Read the sentence in the middle column that begins "The men had developed . . ."

Another way to express the same idea is to say that the _____ plan was ingenious. (Fill in the blank with a possessive.)

It's and Its

Consider this line from page 19 in the play *The Fight For What's Right*:

"No, it's not fair at all."

Now consider this line from page 8 in the article "Escape From Alcatraz":

"But its history goes back even further."

Which line includes a possessive? The answer: the line from "Escape From Alcatraz." It may seem to go against the rules, but the possessive form of *it* does NOT include an apostrophe. (The word *it's* is the contraction of *it is* or *it has*.)

5. Read these sentences:

Scientists say it's possible that Morris and the Anglin brothers made it ashore.

Is the underlined word correct?

yes no

Explain why or why not: _____

6. Write a sentence about any of the articles you read in this issue using *its*.
