

Name: _____ Date: _____

It's vs. Its

Rules for Choosing *It's* or *Its*

1. *It's* is a contraction of *it is* or *it has*.

- **Example:** "But only 20 percent of supercells produce tornadoes, and *it's* difficult to know which storms will launch killer twisters and which will fizzle out." (p. 6)

2. *Its* means "belonging to it."

- **Example:** "America's first machine-made candy survives, though *its* name was changed to Necco Wafers." (p. 15)

Directions: *It's* or *its* appears twice in each sentence below—but one of the times, it is used incorrectly. Figure out which one is wrong, cross it out, and write the correct word above the mistake.

1. *It's* always annoying when a sock loses *it's* partner in the wash.
2. *Its* been decided that each school can choose *its* own mascot.
3. If *its* not too much trouble, could you give the dog *its* toy?
4. *It's* gotten late, and we should get the hamster back in *it's* cage.
5. The garbage can is missing *its* lid, and *its* getting pretty stinky.
6. When my room gets *it's* new coat of paint, *it's* going to look really great.
7. If you don't put the tape back in *its* drawer after you use it, I think *its* going to get lost.
8. When the show comes to *its* conclusion, we know *its* time to applaud.
9. The book is great; *it's* really funny, but you'd think otherwise by looking at *it's* cover.
10. I think *it's* a shame that the cake lost *it's* frosting when it melted in the heat.