

# The Power of Stink

In nature, the worst smells can be the best defense.

## About the Story

**Learning Objective:** to practice subject-verb agreement

**Featured Skill:** grammar, usage, and mechanics

### Standards:

The article and its suite of support materials support this Common Core Anchor Standard: L.1

For more standards information—including TEKS—go to Scope Online.



## Your Teaching Package

Find your full suite of support materials at [scope.scholastic.com](https://scope.scholastic.com).

### Audio:

- Text-to-speech

### Slideshow:

- Identifying Subjects and Verbs

### Activities to print, project, or share digitally:

- Subject-Verb Agreement: Anchor Chart and Practice Activity
- In-Magazine Activity: Interactive Version

## Step-by-Step Lesson Plan

### 1. Prepare to Read (5 minutes)

#### View a Slideshow

- If students are not familiar with basic sentence parts, project the **Identifying Subjects and Verbs** slideshow located in your Resources tab. This slideshow introduces basic sentence parts and contains a practice activity in which students identify them.

#### Set a Purpose for Reading

- Direct students' attention to the directions and the hint box on page 2 or at the top of the digital story page. Read each aloud.

### 2. Read and Discuss (10 minutes)

- Have students read the three boxes of text independently or with a partner, circling the correct word in each bolded pair. Optionally, share the interactive version of this article with students, which contains drop-down menus.
- Find an additional skill-reinforcement activity in your Resources tab: **Subject-Verb Agreement: Anchor Chart and Practice Activity**.

### 3. Write (30 minutes)

- Have students practice using this grammar skill in context. Working in pairs, students should research and write a blurb about another animal with a stinky defense: skunks, millipedes, Tasmanian devils, stink bugs, wolverines, or musk oxen. The blurb should include two word pairs from which to select the correct answer. Students should also create an answer key. Have pairs exchange blurbs and complete each other's activities.