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| **Grammar Masters: Teacher’s Notes**  **Topic: Common and Proper Nouns** |
| Common nouns are the names of general people, places or things, for example ‘tables’, ‘girl’ and ‘house’. They will not start with a capital letter because they are just general names for objects or things- rather than specific names. They will only start with a capital letter if they come at the start of a sentence for example:  Girls also like to play football.  The capital letter is only used because the common noun is at the start of a sentence.  Other than that common nouns can be found in sentences without one, for example:  The boy threw the ball.  The words ‘boy’ and ‘ball’ are non-specific names for an object, or a person.  Proper nouns are the names of specific people, places or things, for example ‘James’, ‘Mrs Smith’ and ‘London’. They will always start with a capital letter because they are specific names for objects or things- rather than general names or common nouns.  Proper nouns can be found in sentences for example:  Mrs Smith threw the ball.  ‘Mrs Smith’ is a proper noun- a name of a particular person, whilst ball is a common noun, it is just a general object. |

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