Identifying Helping Verbs _____

main verbs – orange helping verbs – yellow

*Remember, "not" is an adverb, not a verb.

Robert could not go to the circus with his friends.

Jonathan might buy a new Xbox 360 at Best Buy.

Elliot's mom did not cook hamburgers last night.

Did Elizabeth study for her vocabulary test last week?

Ashlyn has not been watching TV this week.

Randall and Caleb have been building a strong brotherhood for many years.

If you see Lily's new Webkinz, she will show you how cute they are!

Cela may choose four prizes from the treasure box!

Morgan and Reagan may have been sick when we read that story.

Abby could have danced for seven more hours!

Dillan did not forget to read a good book to Avanni.

Holly and Daisy should not have thrown the football in the house!

Natalya and Kaylie have been playing tether ball during recess each day.

Ava could not choose which prize she liked the most!

When identifying helping verbs, I feel:

____ confident _____ unsure _____ I need help.

Identifying Helping Verbs Answer Key

main verbs – orange helping verbs – yellow

*Remember, "not" is an adverb, not a verb.

Robert could not go to the circus with his friends. (could – yellow, go - orange)

Jonathan might buy a new Xbox 360 at Best Buy. (might – yellow, buy - orange)

Elliot's mom did not cook hamburgers last night. (did – yellow, cook - orange)

Did Elizabeth study for her vocabulary test last week? (did – yellow, study - orange)

Ashlyn has not been watching TV this week. (has, been – yellow, watching - orange)

Randall and Caleb have been building a strong brotherhood for many years.
(have, been – yellow, building - orange)

If you see Lily's new Webkinz, she will show you how cute they are!
(see – orange, will – yellow, show - orange)

Cela may choose four prizes from the treasure box! (may – yellow, choose - orange)

Morgan and Reagan may have been sick when we read that story. (may, have – yellow, been - orange)

***This sentence tricks many students. Remind them that "sick" is an adjective, not a verb.**

Abby could have danced for seven more hours! (could, have – yellow, danced - orange)

Dillan did not forget to read a good book to Avanni. (did – yellow, forget - orange)

Holly and Daisy should not have thrown the football in the house!
(should have – yellow, thrown - orange)

Natalya and Kaylie have been playing tether ball during recess each day.
(have been – yellow, playing - orange)

Ava could not choose which prize she liked the most! (could – yellow, choose - orange)