

L.I.V.E. Acronyms & Backronyms Activity Sheet

In the book *The Mysterious Benedict Society*, the four main characters find themselves attending a very special boarding school, *The Learning Institute of the Very Enlightened*. The acronym for this school is L.I.V.E. An acronym is a word formed from the first letters of other words, often used to name products or organizations.



Some Common Acronyms

- FEMA - Federal Emergency Management Agency
- NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- UFO – Unidentified Flying Object
- ASAP –As Soon As Possible

Ledropthe Curtain, the founder of *The Learning Institute of the Very Enlightened*, may have chosen the words of his school's name to fit the letter. If so, then L.I.V.E. is a **backronym**. A **backronym** is like a backwards acronym; the words are chosen to fit specific letters.

For example, if a group of educators wanted to open a private school, they might consider creating *The School for Mathematicians, Artists, Readers, and Thinkers*. The **backronym** for this school would be S.M.A.R.T. This is a “smart” name for a school.

Pretend you are naming a new school and create a backronym for one of the words listed below. Your choices may be humorous, insightful or charming but not disrespectful or negative. You may use a dictionary and/or thesaurus as a reference tool.

A.P.P.E.A.L.

B.R.A.I.N.

C.L.E.V.E.R.

D.U.R.A.B.L.E.

E.N.C.H.A.N.T.

F.I.E.R.C.E.

G.A.T.E.

H.A.S.T.E.

I.N.S.T.A.N.T.

J.O.V.I.A.L.

K.N.A.C.K.

L.I.G.H.T.

M.E.R.L.I.N.

N.E.A.T.

O.R.D.E.A.L.

P.R.E.P.A.R.E.

Q.U.I.C.K.

R.E.A.C.H.

S.H.A.R.P.

T.O.U.G.H.

U.N.E.Q.U.A.L.

V.I.V.I.D.

W.E.A.L.T.H.

X.E.R.O.P.H.Y.T.E.

Your Choice (with permission)

Z.E.N.I.T.H.

Match & Patch

Directions: Using the items listed below, fill in the missing spaces on the grid. Be prepared to discuss your choices.

Example:

School	Students	Book Title
The Learning Institute of the Very Enlightened	Reynard Muldoon, Kate Wetherall, George "Sticky" Washington, Constance Contraire	<i>The Mysterious Benedict Society</i>

School	Students	Book Title
Aesop Elementary School	Bernadette, Hamilton, Calvin, Amisha, Ashley	
	Matilda Wormwood, Lavender, Amanda, & Bruce Bogtrotter	<i>Matilda</i>
Ember School		<i>The City of Ember</i>
	Noah Gershom, Nadia Diamondstein, Ethan Potter, and Julian Singh	<i>The View from Saturday</i>
Hebrew Home for Boys	Dave, Harvey, Joey, Ira, Danny, Reuben, Alfie	
	Harry, Hermione, Ron, Neville	<i>Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone</i>
Jerome Horwitz Elementary		<i>The Adventures of Captain Underpants</i>
Prufrock Preparatory School	Violet, Klaus and Sunny Baudelaire	
University of Chicago's Laboratory School		<i>Chasing Vermeer</i>
	Todd, Bebe, Kathy, Paul and Shari	<i>Sideways Stories from Wayside School</i>

- Crunchem Hall
- *Dave at Night*
- Epiphany School
- *The Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary School*
- George Beard & Harold Hutchins
- Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry
- Lina Mayfleet & Doon Harrow
- Petra Andalee & Calder Pillay
- *A Series of Unfortunate Events: The Austere Academy*
- Wayside School

Extra Credit—Identify the authors of the listed titles

Match & Patch Answer Grid

School	Students	Book Title
Aesop Elementary School	Bernadette, Hamilton, Calvin, Amisha, Ashley	<i>The Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary School</i>
Crunchem Hall	Matilda Wormwood, Lavender, Amanda, & Bruce Bogtrotter	<i>Matilda</i>
Ember School	Lina Mayfleet & Doon Harrow	<i>The City of Ember</i>
Epiphany School	Noah Gershom, Nadia Diamondstein, Ethan Potter, and Julian Singh	<i>The View from Saturday</i>
Hebrew Home for Boys	Dave, Harvey, Joey, Ira, Danny, Reuben, Alfie	<i>Dave at Night</i>
Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry	Harry, Hermione, Ron, Neville	<i>Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone</i>
Jerome Horwitz Elementary	George Beard & Harold Hutchins	<i>The Adventures of Captain Underpants</i>
Prufrock Preparatory School	Violet, Klaus and Sunny Baudelaire	<i>A Series of Unfortunate Events: The Austere Academy</i>
University of Chicago's Laboratory School	Petra Andalee & Calder Pillay	<i>Chasing Vermeer</i>
Wayside School	Todd, Bebe, Kathy, Paul and Shari	<i>Sideways Stories from Wayside School</i>

Creating a Mysterious Newspaper

— Featuring *The Mysterious Benedict Society* —

Possible Contents Include:

News Stories: *Federal Agencies Investigate Prestigious Private School, Scientists Looking for a Cure for Narcolepsy, Father and Daughter Reunited*

Feature Story: *TV Station hires new weather forecaster-Meet Kate Watherall*

Editorial: *The Pros and Cons of Being a Baby Genius*

Letter to the Editor: *Investigation Needed – Why is Nomansan Island so Secretive?*

Want Ads: *Bright Children needed for Testing Research*

Weather: Heavy Rain in Forecast- (Guaranteed to cover footprints in sand)

Entertainment Section:

At the Movies- Orphans Save the Day

In the Book Stores- The History of Subliminal Messages- by I. M. Covert

Just out on CD- Zambian Melody- Featuring the New Artist Rhonda Kazembe

Sports Page: *Hill Climbing, Ductwork Crawling and Constance Carrying: The New Triathlon*

Science Segment: *Turbines: The Advantages of Using Water Currents as a Power Source*

Horoscope: *Gemini- Beware of twins, they are not always who they seem to be*

Comics: *The Adventures of Sticky Washington*

Advice Column: *How to Make being a Grouch Work for You*

Recipes of the Day: *Morse Code Meatballs & Red Metal Bucket Stew*

