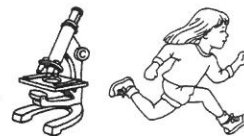


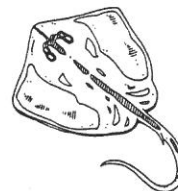
Short Cuts



A **contraction** (contr.) is a word formed by joining two other words.
An **apostrophe** (') takes the place of one or more letters in a contraction.

do + not = don't

it + is = it's



An exception to the rule is won't. (will + not = won't)

Directions: Underline each contraction. Write the words that make up the contraction on the line.

1. Stingrays look as if they're part bird, part fish. _____
2. Stingrays cover themselves with sand so they won't be seen. _____
3. There's a chance that waders might step on a stingray and get stung. _____
4. That's a painful way to learn you shouldn't forget about stingrays. _____
5. Until recently, stingrays weren't seen very often. _____
6. It doesn't seem likely, but some stingrays will eat out of a diver's hand. _____
7. Its mouth is underneath, so the stingray can't see what it's eating. _____
8. Once they've been fed by hand, they'll flutter around for more. _____
9. It's hard to believe these stingrays aren't afraid of the divers. _____
10. To pet a stingray, they'd gently touch its velvety skin. _____

Directions: Find the pairs of words that can be made into contractions. Underline the pairs, and write the contractions each word pair can make on the lines.

11. It is a good idea to know some first aid if you are at the beach. _____
12. There is more than one thing that could cut a person's foot. _____
13. People are not always careful with their trash. _____
14. Unfortunately, it is not rare to step on glass or a bottle top. _____
15. When you are cut, you should clean the wound. _____
16. If you have brought antibiotic cream, you should put some on the wound. _____
17. If the cut is deep, there is a chance it will need stitches. _____
18. Usually, though, these cuts are not serious. _____