

1 Here's the Idea

▶ **The mood of a verb indicates the status of the action or state of being it describes.**

There are three moods: **indicative**, **imperative**, and **subjunctive**.

Indicative Mood

A verb in the indicative mood expresses a fact or asks a question. Verbs in most sentences are in the indicative mood.

Twelve-year-old Andrew Holleman fought to save a wooded wetland near his Massachusetts home.

Didn't he show courage in standing up to a large real estate developer?

Imperative Mood

A verb in the imperative mood gives a command or makes a request.

Imagine a sixth grader or seventh grader circulating petitions and raising money for lawyers' fees.

Subjunctive Mood

A verb in the subjunctive mood expresses a 1) wish or condition that is contrary to fact or 2) a command or request after the word *that*.

If only I were able to stand up more strongly for my beliefs, I could help build a better world.

Teachers should demand that more young people be able to act on their principles.

The subjunctive form of *be* is always *be* or *were*, even with singular subjects.

**If only she were more confident in herself, she'd really go far.
His mother asked that he be more like his father.**