Name & Surname: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Word Builders

Add prefixes and suffixes correctly.

About 50 minutes Level ★★★☆☆

Prefixes and Suffixes

A **prefix** goes at the start of a word and changes its meaning. A **suffix** goes at the end of a word. The main part left is the root word.

- Most prefixes join straight on with no change: un + happy = unhappy, dis + agree = disagree, mis + spell = misspell.
- Suffixes starting with a consonant usually join straight on: help + ful = helpful, kind + ness = kindness.
- If a root ends in y, often change y to i: happy + ness = happiness, beauty + ful = beautiful.
- Sometimes double the last letter before a vowel suffix: begin + ing = beginning, run + ing = running.



Task A

/3

Read the story. Use the prefix and suffix rules.

At tidy-up time, the teacher asks Year 4 to label the art pots. A student is very helpful and shares the brushes. Two others disagree about which colour to use. They take care not to misspell the labels kindness and movement.

1. Which **prefix** word in the story means not agree? What is its root?

   The word is...

2. Which **suffix** word means full of help? What is its root?

   The word is...

3. Which **suffix** word means the state of being kind?

   The word is...

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Think It Through

Think about learning new word parts each week.

Key words

prefix: letters added to the start of a word

root word: main part of a word

misspell: spell badly or wrongly

suffix: letters added to the end of a word

disagree: not agree

kindness: being kind

Task B

Think about the idea from four sides. Write short answers.

N Need to know: what else do I need to find out?

.....

.....

.....

W Worried: what worries me?

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.....

.....

Learn one new prefix or suffix every week.

E Excited: what is good about it?

.....

.....

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S Stance or suggestion: what do I think now?

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.....

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Pick and Survey

Check spellings and find class favourites.

Task C

Example done for you

/3

Tick the correct spelling. Remember the spelling rules.

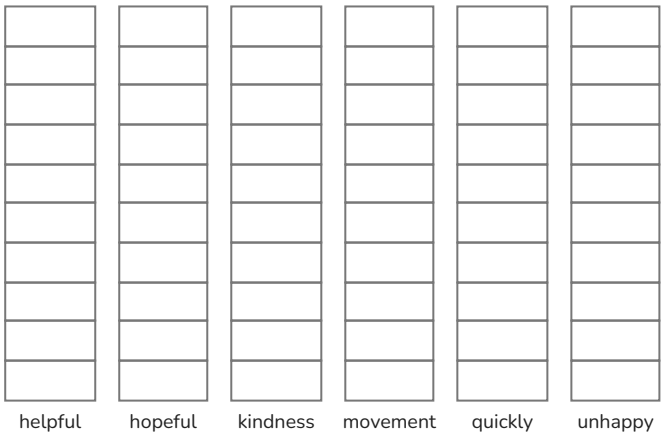
1. Which **prefix** word is correct?
   - ☐ dissagree
   - ☑ disagree
   - ☐ disegree
2. Which **suffix** word is correct?
   - ☐ helpfull
   - ☐ helpful
   - ☐ helppful
3. Which word shows y changed to **i**?
   - ☐ happyness
   - ☐ happiness
   - ☐ happyess
4. Which word doubles the **letter**?
   - ☐ begining
   - ☐ beginning
   - ☐ begening

Task D

Ask ten friends. Tally answers, then colour the chart.

Which new word would you use on a poster about kindness?

Answer	Tally	Total
helpful		
hopeful		
kindness		
movement		
quickly		
unhappy		



What does your chart show?

.....

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Answers First

Write a question for each answer.

Task E

The answer is given. Write a question for it.

The answer is: **disagree**

What could the question be?

.....

.....

.....

The answer is: **happiness (happy + ness)**

What could the question be?

.....

.....

.....

The answer is: **beginning (begin + ing)**

What could the question be?

.....

.....

.....

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Why Spelling Matters

Dig into why correct word building helps.

Task F

Ask Why? to dig deeper into this issue.

Some posters spell helpful as helpfull.

Why? We forget the rule for suffixes starting with a consonant

Why?

Why?

Why?

Why?

Why?

Task G

Example done for you

/3

Make new words. Write the missing word.



root
happy
with un-
unhappy

Draw it

root
enjoy
with -able



root
run
with -ing



root
hope
with -ful

How did I do?

Circle a face for each line.

I can explain what a prefix and a suffix do.

I can add prefixes and suffixes with the right spelling.

I can use my new words in writing.

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Answer sheet: Word Builders

Task A

1. disagree, root agree
2. helpful, root help
3. kindness

Task B

Answers will vary, e.g. E: Excited: we can make lots of new words quickly. N: Need to know: which prefix or suffix is first? S: Stance: yes, good idea if we keep a word wall. W: Worried: we might mix up spellings like misspell.

Task C

1. b) disagree
2. b) helpful
3. b) happiness
4. b) beginning

Task D

Answers will vary.

Task E

Answers will vary, e.g. disagree → What word means not agree? happiness (happy + ness) → What word means being happy? beginning (begin + ing) → What word doubles n when ing is added?

Task F

Answers will vary, e.g. We forget the rule for suffixes starting with a consonant; We do not check the root word first

Task G

1. unhappy
2. enjoyable
3. running
4. hopeful

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