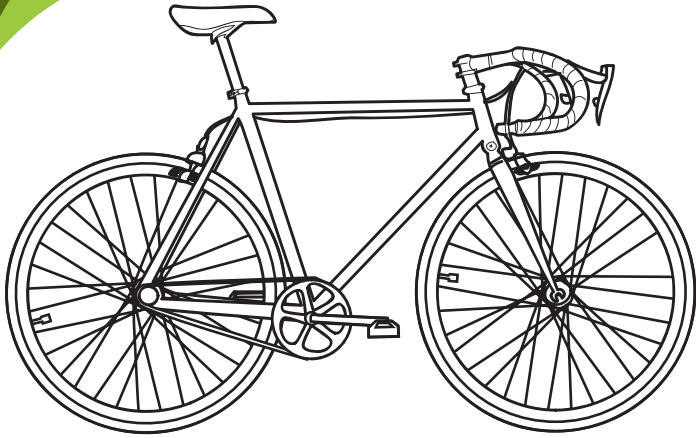


# Prefixes and Suffixes

2<sup>nd</sup>  
GRADE



BI  
prefix

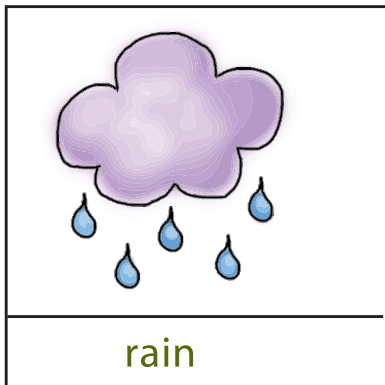
CYCLE  
root word



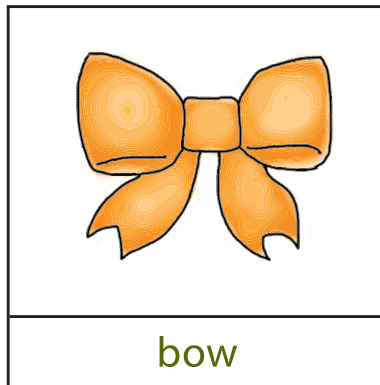
DUCK  
root word

LING  
suffix

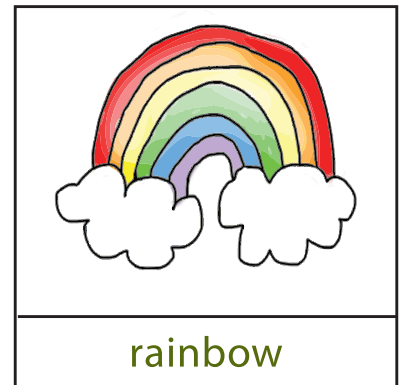
## 1. rainbow



+



=



COMPOUND WORDS

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Build A Wall  
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*Certificate of Completion*

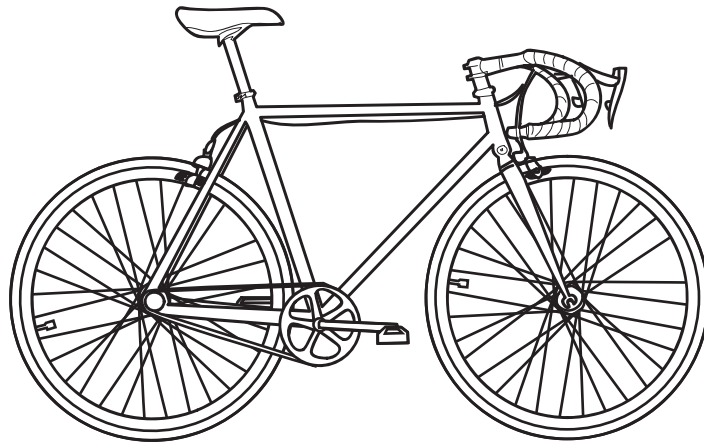
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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# WHAT IS A PREFIX?

A **prefix** is attached at the **beginning** of a word and **changes** that word's **original definition**.



**BI**

*prefix*

**CYCLE**

*root word*

The **prefix bi** means *two*. The **root word cycle** has a lot of different meanings. A **cycle** can be *many events grouped together*, or it can be a verb - *to move*.

When you put together **bi + cycle**, you get a totally new word: **bicycle!**

Night

Candle

Drive

Tour

Untie

Lit

Return

Run

Order

Mistake

Turn

Reverse

Circle all of the words above that have prefixes.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# WHAT IS A SUFFIX?

A **suffix** is a letter or a group of letters placed at the **end of a word** to **change** the word's **meaning**.



**DUCK**

*root word*

**LING**

*suffix*

The **suffix** ling means *belonging to a group*. The **root word** duck is the name of a *quacking, fluffy bird*.

When you put together **duck + ling**, you get a baby bird: **a duckling!**

Pig

Drive

Act

Careful

Piglet

Teach

Painless

Night

Actor

Darkness

Care

Untie

Circle all of the words above that have suffixes.

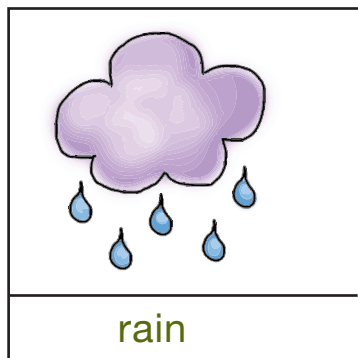
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Date \_\_\_\_\_

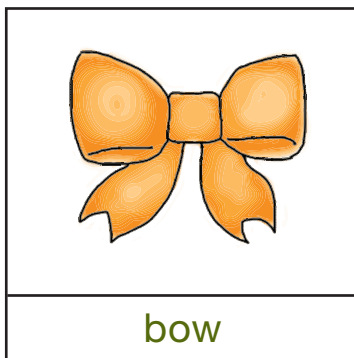
# COMPOUND WORDS

By joining two smaller words together to make one new word, you create a **compound word**. For example, the word *rainbow* is a **compound word** because you combine the words *rain* and *bow*.

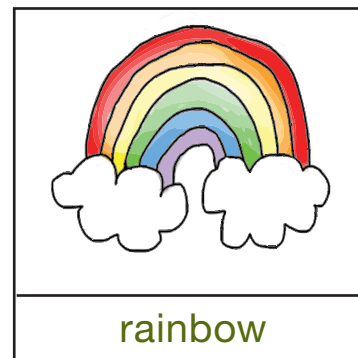
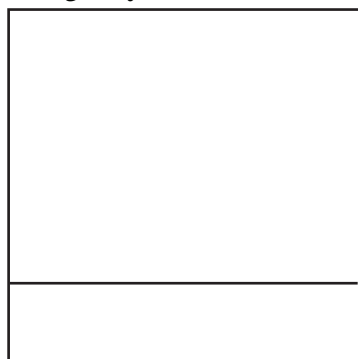
Take apart each compound word, making two smaller words.  
Draw a picture in the boxes for each smaller word.

**Example:****1. rainbow**

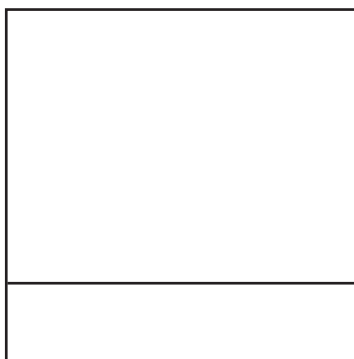
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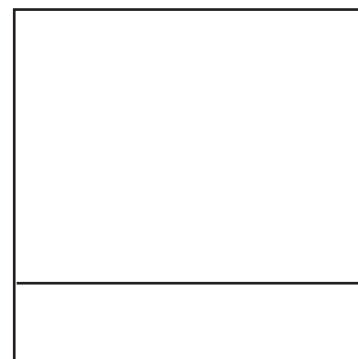
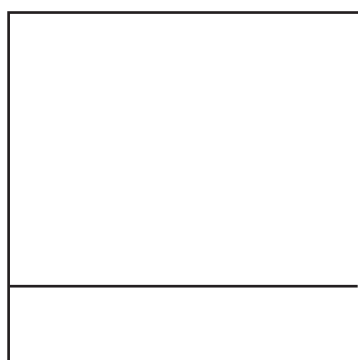
=

**2. jellyfish**

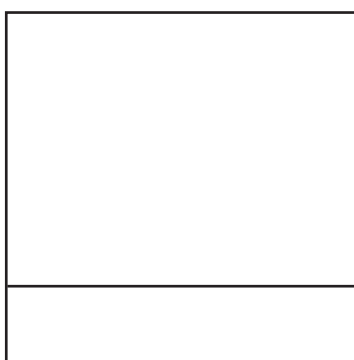
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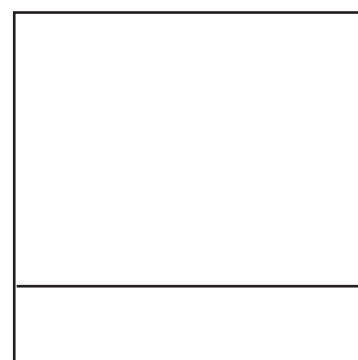
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**3. butterflies**

+



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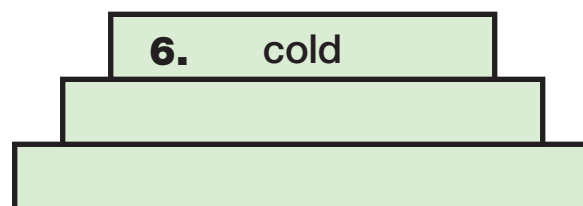
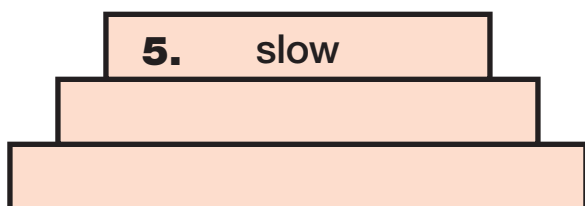
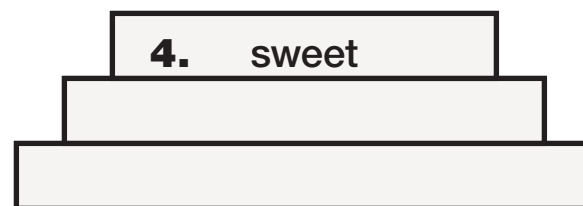
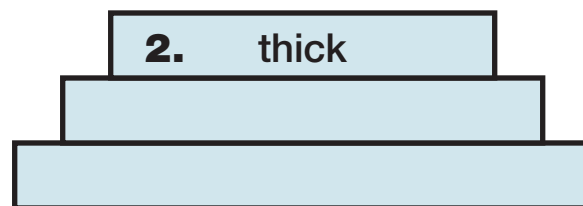
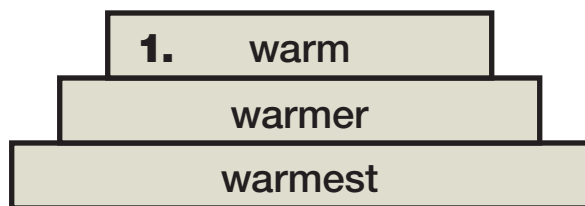
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# WRITE COMPARING WORDS

Look at the block pyramids below. The word in each top block is a root word. In the middle block, add *-er* to the base word by writing the word. In the bottom block, add *-est* to the base word. Write the word out.

## Example



Now write a sentence using at least one of the words you wrote.

---

---

---

# VOWEL & CONSONANT SUFFIXES

Just like there are vowel and consonant words, there are also vowel suffixes and consonant suffixes.

A vowel suffix begins with a vowel: -able, -er, -ed, -ing, -ity, -ation, -est, -al, -y

A consonant suffix begins with a consonant: -ship, -less, -some, -ful, -hood, -let, -less, -ment

## WORDS ENDING IN CONSONANTS + VOWEL SUFFIXES

How do you spell sit + -ing? The root word sit ends in a *consonant*, and the suffix -ing starts with a *vowel*. Something special happens!

Whenever you see a word that *ends in a consonant* like sit and you want to add a *vowel suffix* like -ing, you have to **double the word's last consonant** to make the new word!

For example: **sit + ing = sitting**    **sad + er = sadder**

*Exceptions: This rule doesn't work for root words that end in w, x, or y.  
Example: snow + ed = snowed, play + ed = played, box + ed = boxed.*

Add the correct suffix to each sentence. The first is done for you.

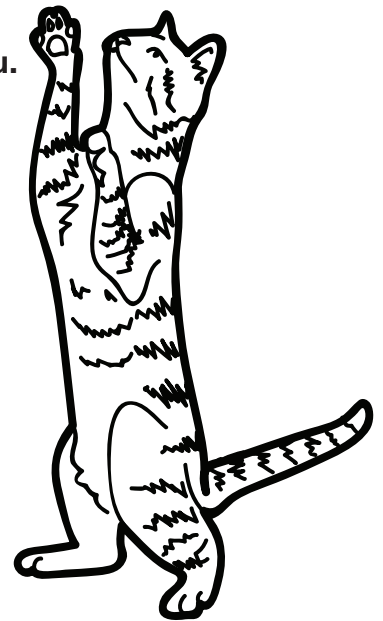
1. The cat begged for the mouse toy. (ed, er)

2. Aunt Dottie stop at the red light. ( ed, ing )

3. I enjoy sit by the fire. ( able, ing )

4. My friends pop the balloon. ( ed, er )

5. The dalmatian is very spot. ( y, ing )



# VOWEL & CONSONANT SUFFIXES

## WORDS ENDING IN CONSONANTS + CONSONANT SUFFIXES

If the word ends in a consonant ( *spot* ) and you add a suffix that begins with a consonant ( *-less* ), then there are no spelling changes ( *spotless* ).

For example: **sad** + **ly** = **sadly**    **mad** + **ness** = **madness**

## WORDS THAT END WITH "Y" OR "OW" + SUFFIX "ER" OR "EST"

How do you spell happy + -est? The root word **happy** ends in "y." So in special cases like these, you turn the "y" into an "i" when you add the suffix "er" or "est."

For example: **happy** + **est** = **happiest**

Add the correct suffix to each sentence. The first is done for you.

1. My sister's room is very tidy and spotless. ( less ly )  
spot

2. Which is tasty, gummy bears or popcorn? ( er, est )

3. Jeremy shop at the store for a new tie. ( s, ly )

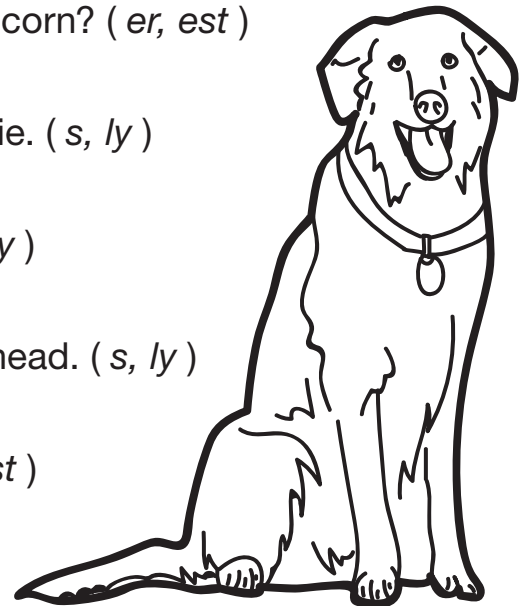
4. I glad ate the candy apple. ( ness, ly )

5. Gina slip the collar over the dog's head. ( s, ly )

6. My brother is sloppy than I am. ( er, est )

7. I love running and fit. ( y, ness )

8. John thinks clowns are the funny people in the world. ( er, est )





# SPECIAL SUFFIX RULES

Now that you have a better understanding of what a suffix is, let's dive into some rules about suffixes and words.

Let's refresh what you've learned! Use the following as reference for future practice.

## SUFFIX

A word ending that is attached to a root word, changing its meaning.

small + er = smaller

## SYLLABLES

A way to break down a word based on rhythm. Try clapping your hands as you say a word, and count the claps. Each syllable will always have a vowel.

One-syllable words:

dog, help, job, love  
cat, run, play

Two-syllable words:

bunny, funny, daddy

Multiple-syllable words:

understand, happily

## VOWELS & CONSONANTS

Vowels include: a e i o u.

Sometimes y is considered a vowel.

Any letter that isn't a vowel is called a *consonant*.

b c d f g h, etc. are all consonants.

Practice your understanding of suffixes, vowels & consonants, and syllables.

### 1. HAPPINESS

- Write out the suffix: \_\_\_\_\_
- Does the word start with a vowel or a consonant? \_\_\_\_\_
- Break down the word into syllables: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. UNDERSTANDING

- Write out the suffix: \_\_\_\_\_
- Does the word start with a vowel or a consonant? \_\_\_\_\_
- Break down the word into syllables: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

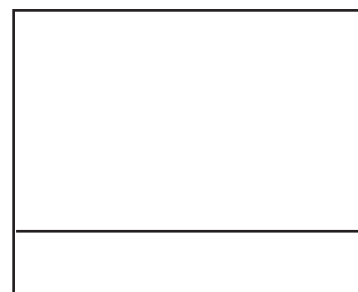
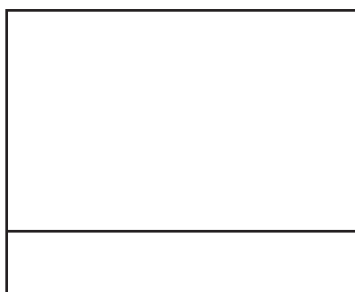
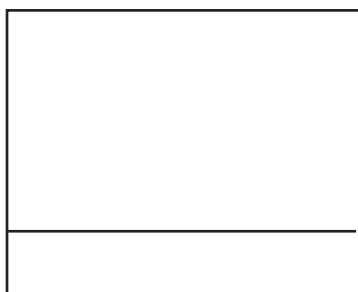
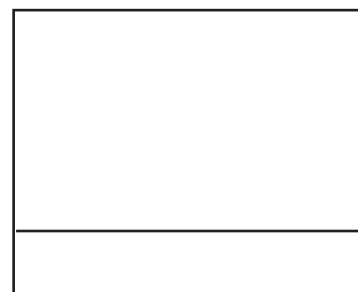
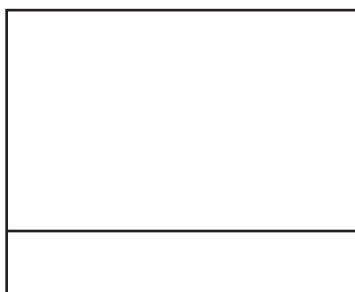
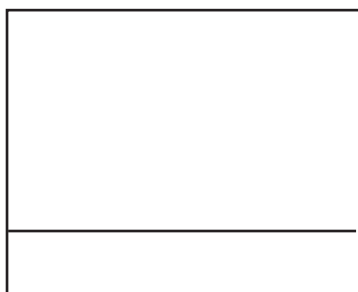
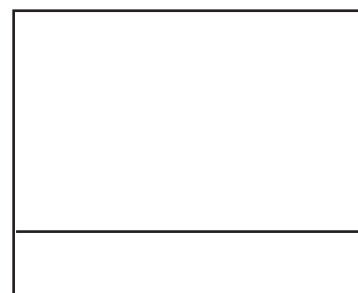
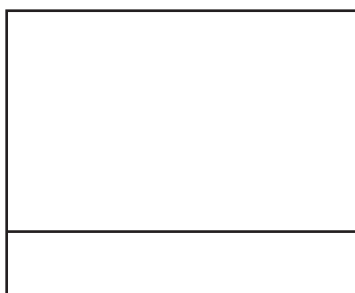
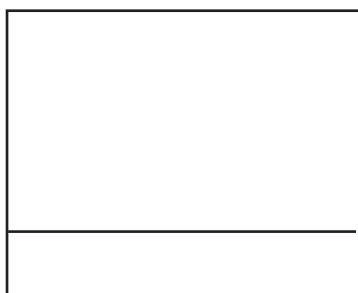
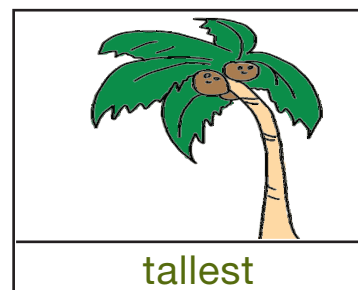
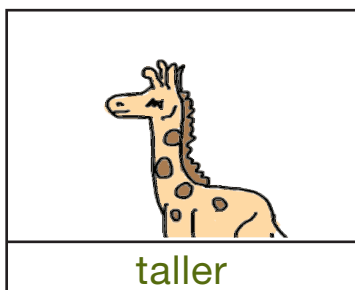
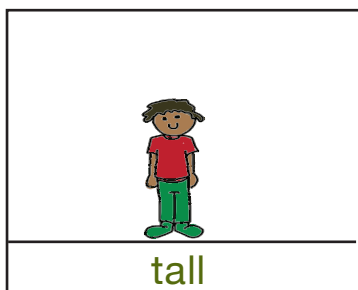
# SUFFIX COMPARISONS

Use the following worksheet to illustrate -er and -est words.

Make comparing words that you'd like to show! Some great examples of comparing words are: tall, taller, tallest; small, smaller, smallest; or fast, faster, fastest.

Draw pictures in the blank boxes below to show the meaning of each word.

Be sure to write the word below each picture!



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**UN**

*prefix*

**HAPPY**

*root word*

**REST**

*root word*

**LESS**

*suffix*

Negative prefixes and suffixes alter the root word to mean “the opposite of,” “not,” or “against.”

## NEGATIVE NELLIE

Complete each word in the following sentences using a prefix or suffix from the word bank.

**im**

**un**

**anti**

**less**

**dis**



Nellie is a very \_\_\_\_ happy person.

She's never pleased and is always \_\_\_\_ appointed.

\_\_\_\_ patient and quick-tempered, she gets angry easily.

Nellie has many \_\_\_\_ likes and enjoys very little.

Nellie is humor \_\_\_\_ and grumpy.

She's incredibly \_\_\_\_ polite to teachers and other adults.

She is care \_\_\_\_ with toys that don't belong to her.

Nellie dislikes many people and is very \_\_\_\_ social.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Positive prefixes and suffixes help emphasize a root word's original meaning.

## POSITIVE PETE

Complete each word in the following sentences using a prefix or suffix from the word bank.

**ful**

**over**

**pro**

**ish**

Pete is a very hope\_\_\_\_\_ and positive person.

His friends say he \_\_\_\_\_flows with happiness.

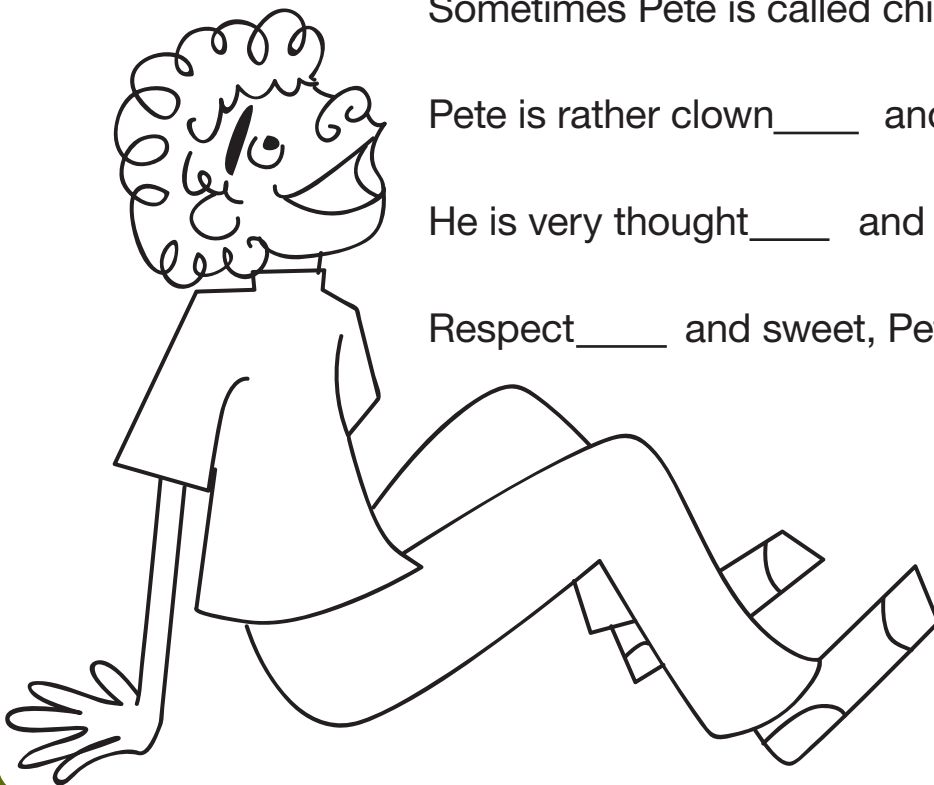
He is very \_\_\_\_\_active and always does the best thing.

Sometimes Pete is called child\_\_\_\_\_, but he's just playful.

Pete is rather clown\_\_\_\_\_ and loves to make others laugh.

He is very thought\_\_\_\_\_ and loves gift-giving.

Respect\_\_\_\_\_ and sweet, Pete has many good qualities.



# MORE, MOST, AND SUFFIXES

## TWO SYLLABLE ADJECTIVES + SUFFIX “FUL”

If an adjective has **2 syllables** ( *color* ) and also ends with the suffix “*ful*” ( *colorful* ), you need to add “*more*” or “*most*” before the word if you want to write **comparisons**.

For example: **color ( col • or ) + ful = colorful.**  
**Butterflies are more colorful than moths.**

Complete each comparative sentence using the right word. The first is done for you.

1. I find my sister is way more cheerful than my brother. ( more, most )
2. Puppies are the \_\_\_\_\_ playful pets. ( more, most )
3. Do you think elephants or sharks are \_\_\_\_\_ powerful? ( more, most )

## THREE (OR MORE) SYLLABLE WORDS WITH SUFFIXES

If an adjective with a suffix has 3 or more syllables, always add “*more*” or “*most*” before the word when you write **comparisons**.

For example: **excite + ing = exciting ( ex • cit • ing ).**  
**Jon is the most exciting person I know.**

Complete each comparative sentence using the right word.

1. Sometimes Joe can be \_\_\_\_\_ talkative outside of class. ( more, most )
2. Cooks try to find the \_\_\_\_\_ meal combinations. ( more, most )
3. Are monkeys are \_\_\_\_\_ entertaining than cats? ( more, most )

# TESTING SUFFIX SKILLS

Now that you are familiar with vowel suffixes, consonant suffixes, comparisons, and how word spelling can change, practice the following exercises!

Use the correct adjective for each sentence below. The first is done for you.

1. My cookie is bigger than my brother's, but our father chose the biggest cookie from the jar. ( *big* )

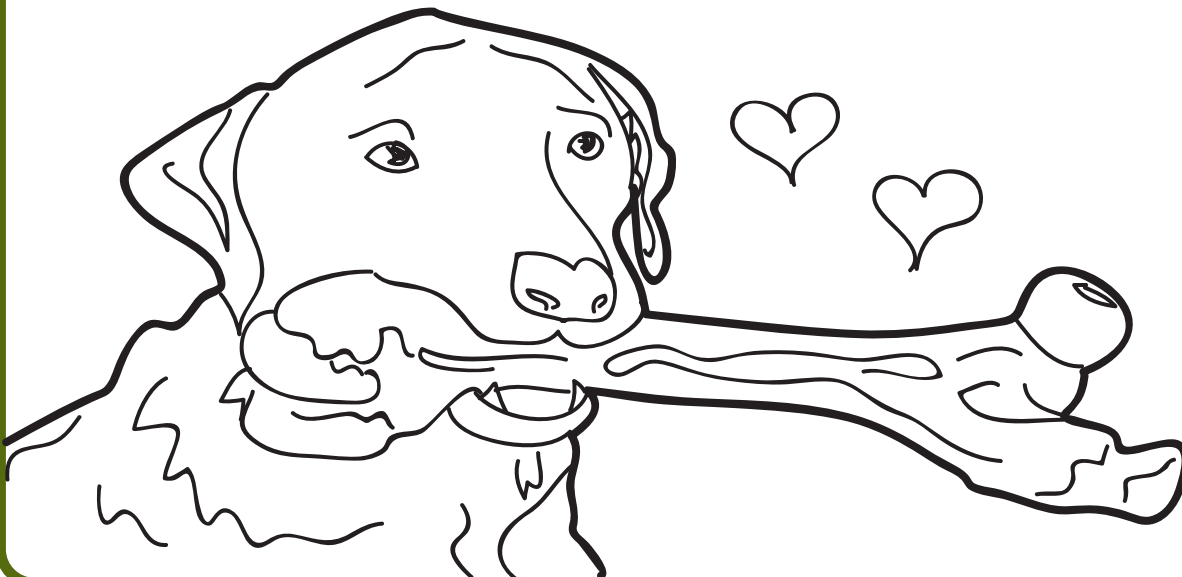
2. The dog was \_\_\_\_\_ than the cat if you gave him a bone,  
but the \_\_\_\_\_ pet in the world when we played fetch with him. ( *happy* )

3. I thought the kitten was \_\_\_\_\_ than the cat, but the puppy was  
the \_\_\_\_\_ out of all the animals in the pet store. ( *playful* )

4. John \_\_\_\_\_ picked the first ice cream scoop. ( *glad* )

5. Which do you find \_\_\_\_\_, a monkey or a clown? ( *funny* )

6. The movie made me \_\_\_\_\_ the more I watched it. ( *sad* )



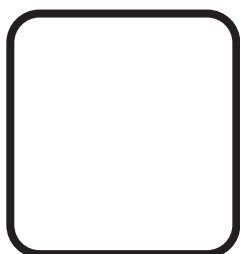
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# PRACTICE NUMBER PREFIXES

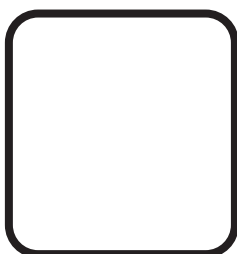
Use a dictionary to find out what each word means.

Fill in the blanks by drawing in a picture or writing out the word.



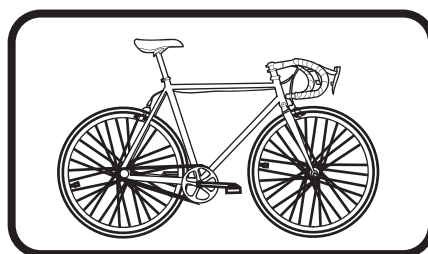
**BI**

+



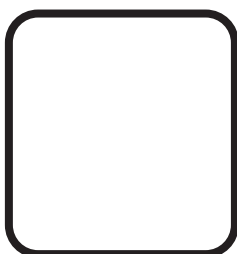
**CYCLE**

=



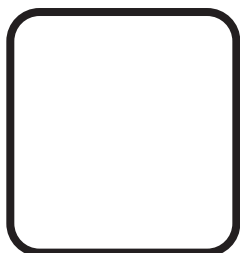
**3**

+



**ANGLE**

=



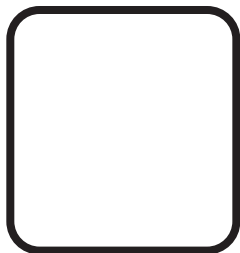
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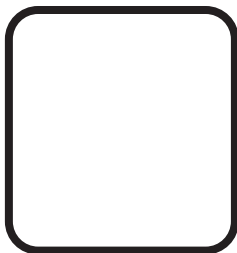


**UNICORN**



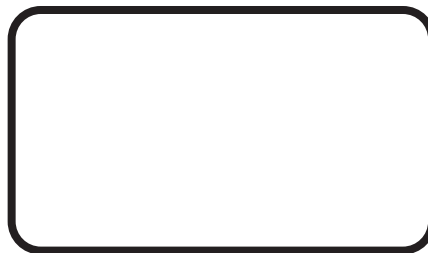
**TRI**

+



**POD**

=



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# MAKE NEW WORDS WITH SUFFIXES

Choose a root word that fits with the suffixes below. Write your root word in the first box. Combine it with the suffix and write the new word.

Root Words

color
chew
fair
treat
sad
like
help
silent

	Root Word	+	Suffix	=	New Word
1.	chew	+	-able	=	chewable
2.		+	-ful	=	
3.		+	-less	=	
4.		+	-able	=	
5.		+	-ly	=	
6.		+	-ness	=	
7.		+	-ful	=	
8.		+	-ly	=	



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# UNSCRAMBLING PREFIXES

Unscramble the words. Be sure to circle the word's prefix!



1. A creature that is half woman, half fish.

eradmim: MERMAID

2. A tank where you can keep fish in your home.

uaumqari: \_\_\_\_\_

3. An eight-legged sea animal.

tusoopc: \_\_\_\_\_

4. These tools help you see things from far away.

eepeltcos: \_\_\_\_\_

5. A bird that can be found by the ocean.

lugasle: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Scientific study of animals.

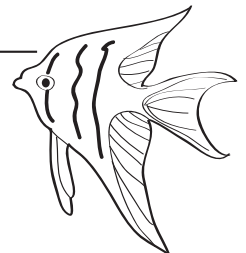
lozooyg: \_\_\_\_\_

7. A war ship that can dive underwater.

suaienrmb: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Under the surface of the water.

edawnerrut: \_\_\_\_\_



# PREFIX SEARCH

Read the fable The Crow and the Water Jug below.

Circle all of the words that have prefixes in the story. *Clue: There are 5 words total.*

**AN UNHAPPY CROW CHOKING** with thirst saw a big clay jug, and hoping to find water, flew to it with delight.

When he reached it, he sadly realized that it contained so little water that he could not possibly get at it.

He tried everything he could think of to reach the water, but all his efforts were in vain.

Suddenly, the crow had an idea!

He flew away and returned with a stone, dropping it into the pitcher. The water raised a little, making room for the stone. Happy with his discovery, the crow collected as many stones as he could carry and dropped them one by one with his beak into the pitcher, until he brought the water within his reach and had a nice, refreshing drink!

*Little by little does the trick.*



# SUFFIX SEARCH

Read the fable The Lion and the Mouse below.

Circle at least 5 words that have suffixes in the story. *Clue: There are 13 words total.*

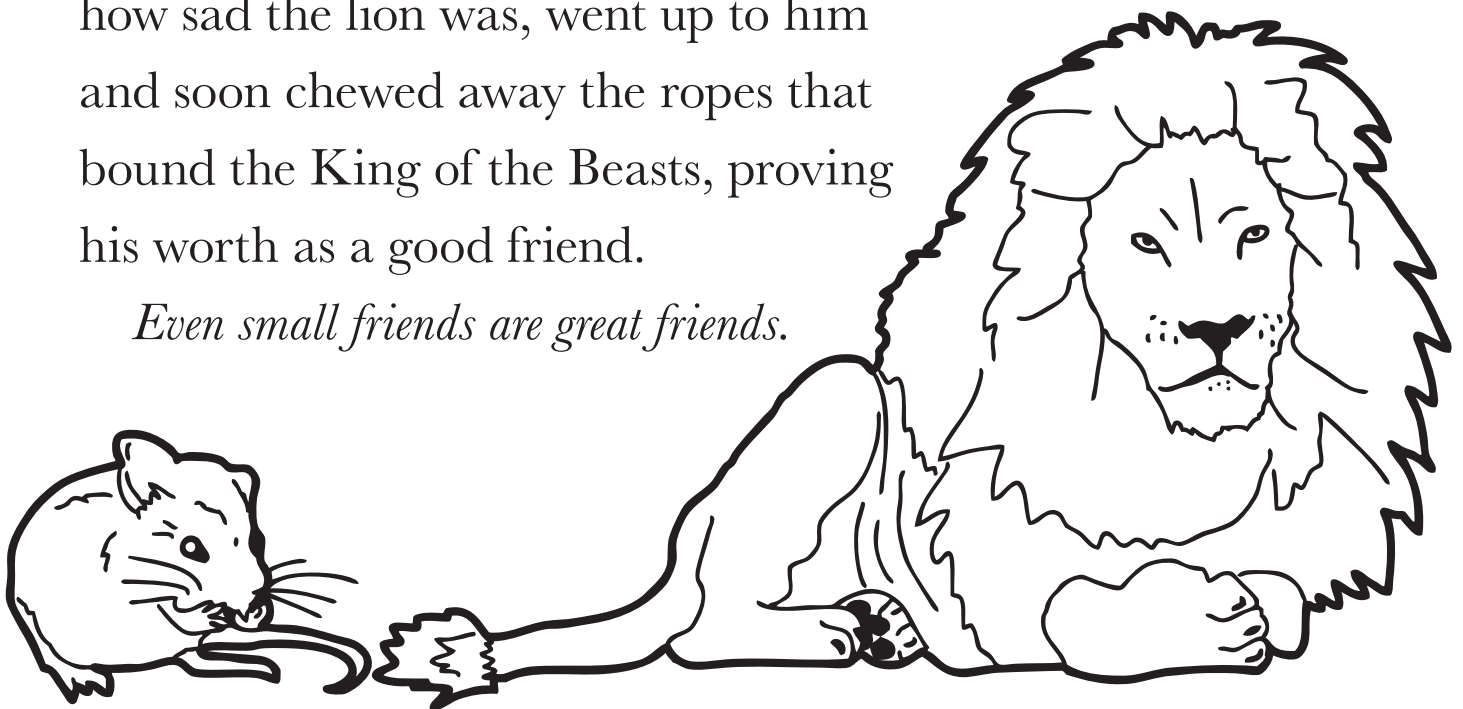
**ONCE WHEN A LION** was sleeping a little mouse began running up and down on top of him; this soon woke up the lion, who placed his huge paw on top of him, and opened his big jaws to swallow him.

"Pardon, O King," squeaked the little mouse: "forgive me this time, I shall never forget it: I promise if you let me go now, I'll pay you back!"

The lion was so tickled at the idea of the mouse helping him, that he lifted up his paw and let him go.

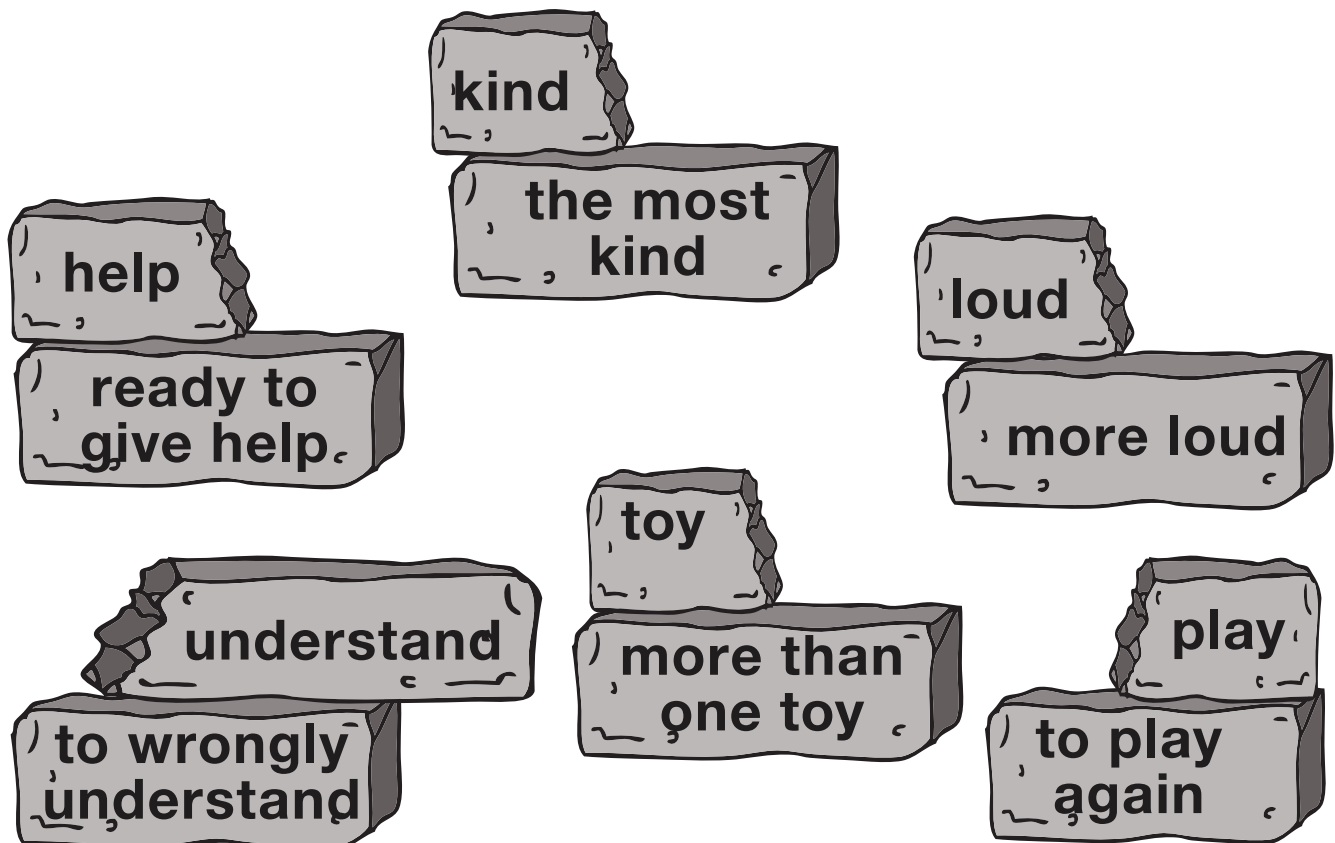
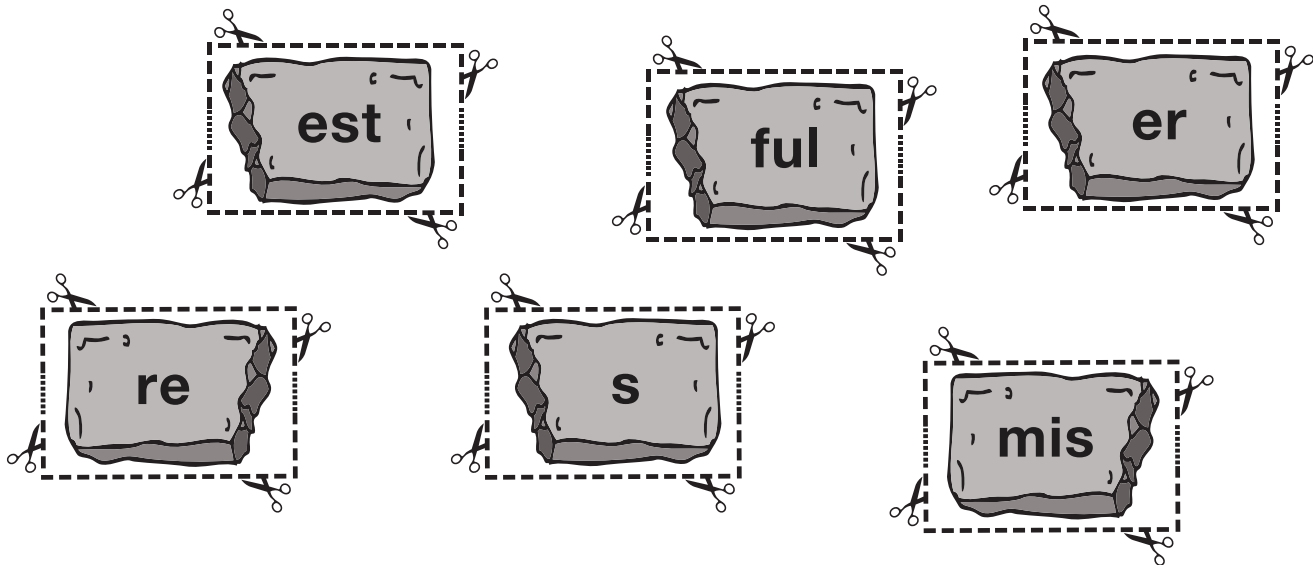
Some time after the lion was stuck in a rope trap dangling in the trees. Just then the little mouse walked by, and seeing how sad the lion was, went up to him and soon chewed away the ropes that bound the King of the Beasts, proving his worth as a good friend.

*Even small friends are great friends.*



# BUILD A WALL

Build a wall by having an adult help you cut out all the pieces below. Connect the correct prefix or suffix to the word. Use the definitions below the unfinished word if you need help. Be sure to glue the cutout where it belongs!

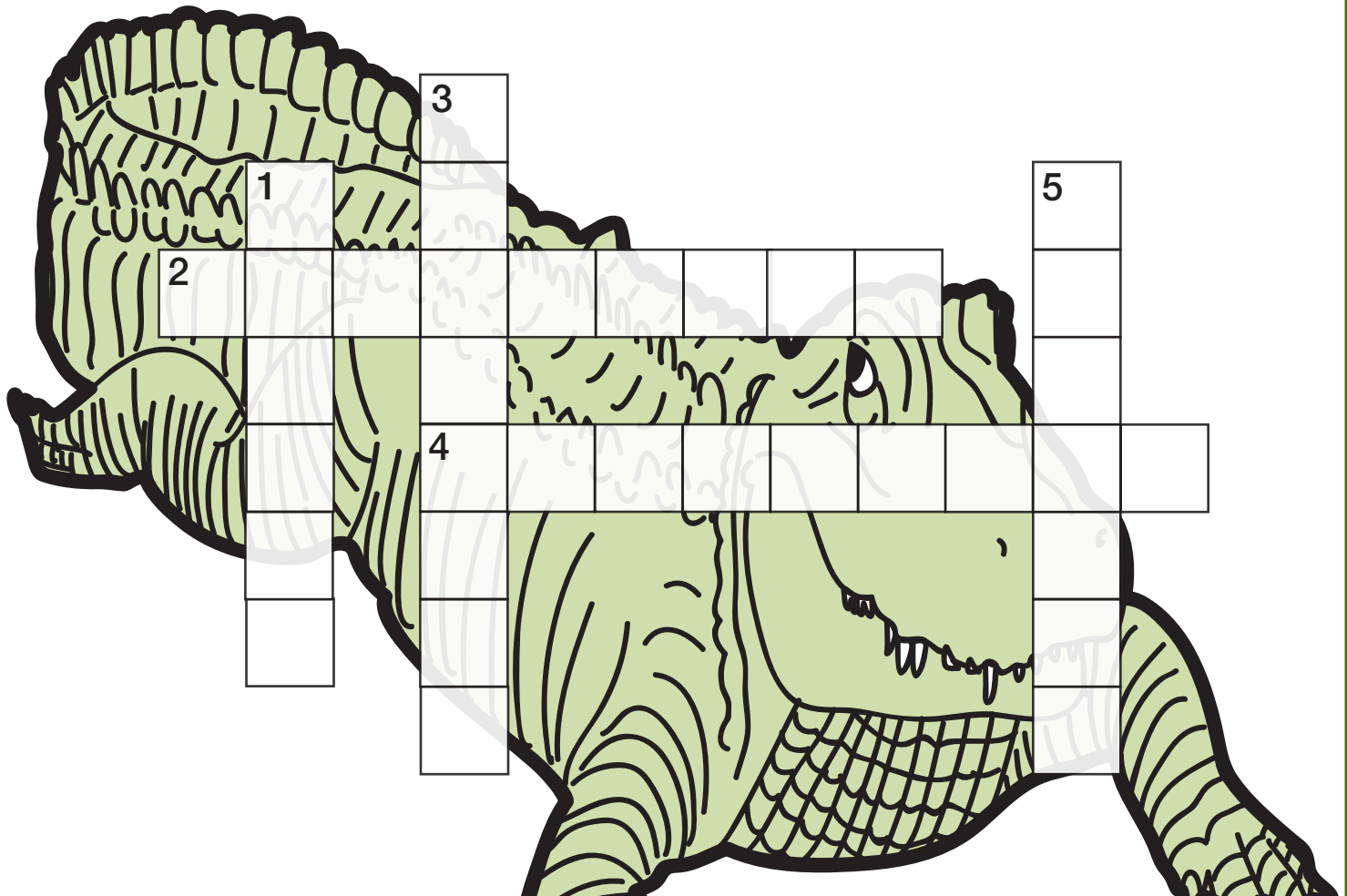


Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# PREFIX CROSSWORD PUZZLE

There are many animals those names start with prefixes!  
Complete the following crossword puzzle and circle the  
prefixes once you've filled out the puzzle.



## Across

2. An insect with hundreds of legs!  
4. A reptile with big jaws.

## Down

1. Another word for cat.  
3. This animal has a long snout to suck up ants.  
5. An eight-legged sea animal.

## Word Bank

feline

anteater

alligator

centipede

octopus

Name \_\_\_\_\_

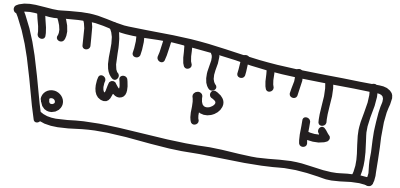
Date \_\_\_\_\_

# PREFIX/SUFFIX MULTIPLE CHOICE

Circle the answer that best describes the meaning of the underlined word.

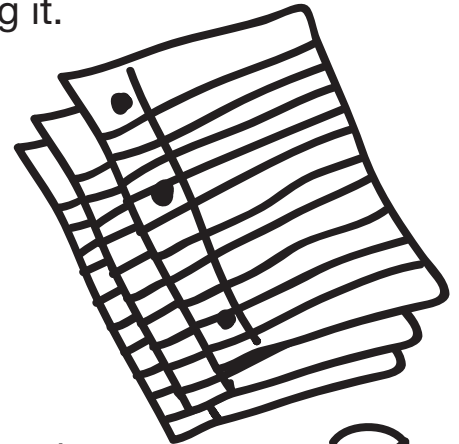
1. I loved the movie so much I had to **rewatch** it!

- a) I liked the move so much I watched it twice.
- b) I liked the movie so much I watched it again.
- c) I liked the movie so much I stopped watching it.



2. I want to be a **writer** when I grow up!

- a) I want to read writing when I'm older.
- b) I want to start writing when I'm older.
- c) I want to write for a living when I'm older.

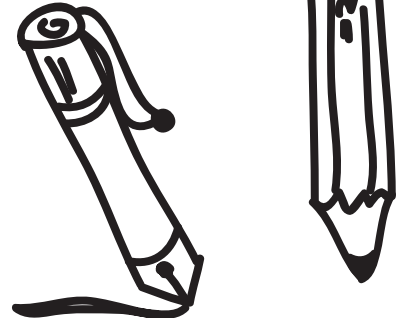


3. My mom **disconnected** the cable from my TV.

- a) My mom hooked up the cable to the TV.
- b) My mom connected the cable to the TV yesterday.
- c) My mom removed the cable from my TV.

4. Sally got to **preview** the book before class.

- a) Sally got to read the book again before class.
- b) Sally got to read the book before class.
- c) Sally did not read the book before class.



5. Mary is a very **helpful** student.

- a) Mary is a bad student.
- b) Mary is little help during class.
- c) As a student, Mary helps a lot.

6. John **unwrapped** his present during the party.

- a) John hid his present during the party.
- b) John played with his present during the party.
- c) John opened his present during the party.



# SUFFIX-PREFIX GAME

Now that you know about suffixes and prefixes, let's play a game!

- 1) Cut out the cards below. Be sure to have an adult supervise.
- 2) Find a couple of friends to play with.
- 3) Spread out the cards. Everyone will take turns making new words, starting with one card and adding one card per turn.
- 4) Be sure to look up your words in a dictionary to make sure they are real words.
- 5) The player who makes the most words wins the game!

**cheer**

**pay**

**-less**

**kind**

**run**

**care**

**-ly**

**-ful**

**un-**

**care**

**wash**

**play**

**friend**

**sad**

**fear**

**-able**

**-ness**

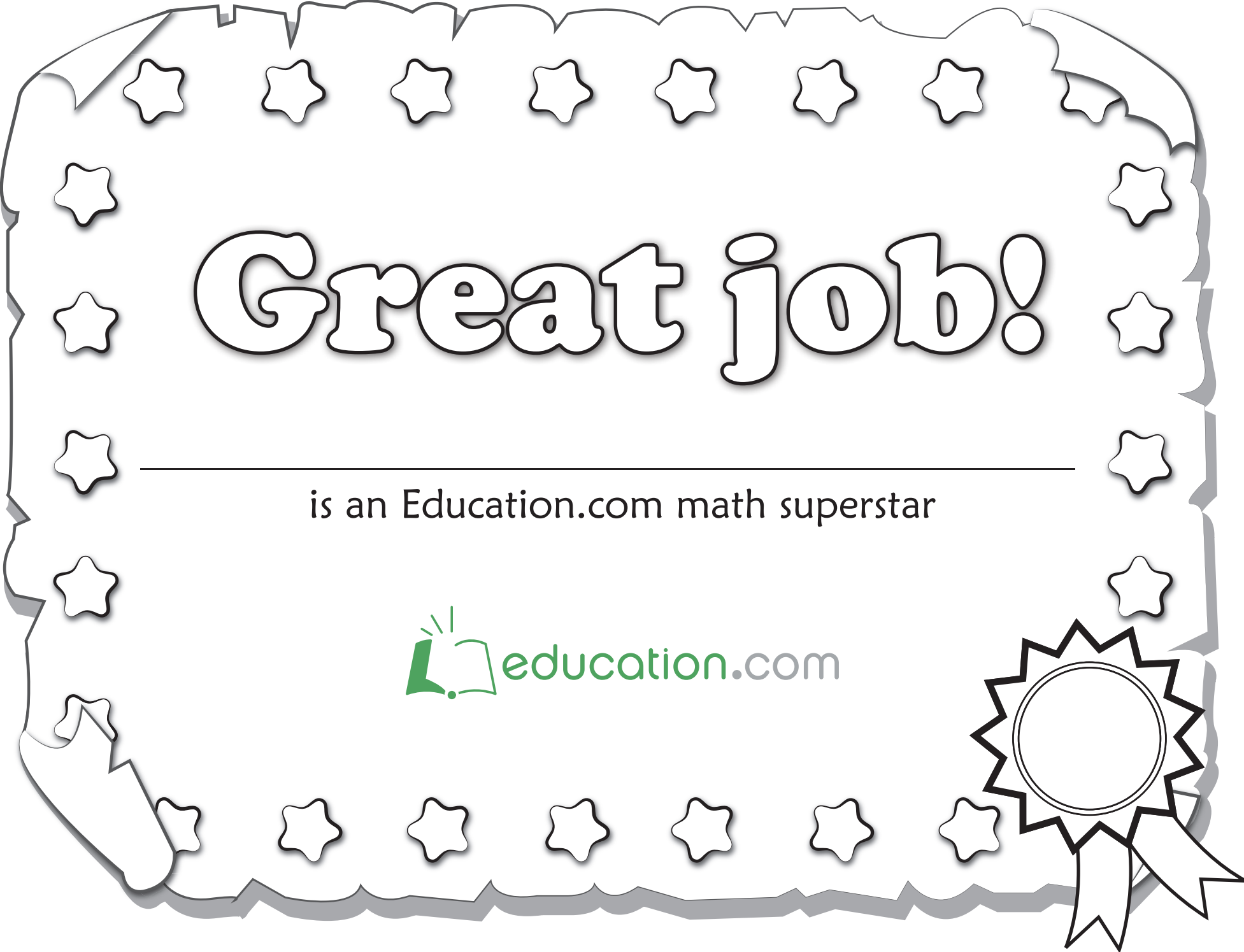
**re-**

**tie**

**real**

**fair**





# Great job!

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