

Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

Penguins
By: Anne Schreiber
Grade Level: 3 / Guided Reading Level: N

Word Work

Instructional Focus:
Suffixes -er and -est

Background:
The suffix -er is used to describe 'more' when comparing two things. The suffix -est is used to describe 'most' when comparing more than two things.

Examples:

Easiest
Harder
Heavier
Smallest

Materials and Preparation:

- A Copy of *Penguins* by Anne Schreiber
- Chart Paper
- Markers
- Roll a Suffix Dice and Adjective Cards
- Suffix Practice Page (1 page)
- Optional - Extend Engagement Activity
- Optional - Word Detective

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Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work

Introduce Suffixes -er and -est

- Direct student attention to the anchor chart.
- Explain that the suffixes -er and -est are used at the end of adjectives when comparing things. When we use -er, we are comparing two things. When we use -est, we are comparing more than two things.
- Discuss each example under the two suffix headings. Practice reading each word and sentence as a class. Circle the suffix as you discuss each word to emphasize the use of the suffixes.
- Have students turn and talk with a partner to brainstorm examples of each heading. Write the root word and suffix examples under the correct heading of the chart as you discuss.

Sample Anchor Chart

Using Suffixes to Compare	Suffixes	Examples
Root Word	Compare two things	Heavier, Faster, Smaller, Quieter
Root Word	Compare more than two things	Heaviest, Fastest, Smallest, Quietest

Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading

Suffixes -er and -est in the Text

- Explain to students that the book they are reading today will have many examples of these suffixes.
- Next, explain that they are going to listen as you read the book, and when they hear or see the -er or -est suffix, they should fold their arms to their sides like penguin flippers.
- Model listening for these words by reading page 5 and having the students identify the word "coldest" and add it to the chart under the correct heading. Point out that we are comparing all the places in the world in this sentence, which is why -est is the correct suffix.
- After each page, have students identify the suffix words they heard and write them under the correct heading. Discuss the examples they heard and saw.

Some Examples of Words Ending in Suffix -er and -est in the Text:

- longest • coldest • warmer • better • faster
- farther • smallest • loudest • fastest • largest

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Step by Step Lesson Plan

Optional Activity to Extend Engagement

List of words in the book that match the instructional focus

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Step 3: Guided Word Work Practice

Interactive Exploration

- Explain to students that they are now going to practice what they've learned by playing a game called **Roll a Suffix**.
- Have students get into pairs. Each pair should get a suffix dice and a stack of adjective cards. Student should fold up and tape the suffix dice.
- Each student can take a turn rolling the dice. Whatever surface lands up will be the suffix they use.
- Then, they can draw an adjective card from the pile. They should write the adjective with the suffix added to the end and then provide a sample sentence using the new word.
- Students may need guidance on spelling changes such as heavy, heavier, heaviest, and wet, wetter, wettest.

Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice

Practice Page

- Provide each student a copy of **Suffix Practice Page**.
- Read the directions with the class.
- Tell the students to complete the practice page.
- Monitor students while they work.

Step 5: Reconnect and Reflect on Word Work

Group Discussion

- Bring the students back together.
- Ask students to explain what they learned about words based on the work they completed.
- Invite students to turn and talk with a partner about their word work.
- Invite 2-3 students to share what they learned with the group.

Step 6: Extend Word Work (optional)

Extension Activity

- Ask students to be on the lookout for **words ending in suffixes -er and -est** in their own reading. Tell them to write their words on an index card and add them to the pocket chart (review the added cards with the class later in the day or before moving on to the next word work lesson).
- Alternatively, students can keep track of the words using the **Word Detective** worksheet.

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Interactive Activity

Roll a Suffix Interactive Activity

Suffix Dice

est			
er	er	er	est
est			

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Independent Practice Page

Suffix Word Work Practice page

Directions:
Read the sentences below. Write either the suffix -er or -est on the blank provided.

- My sister sings loud_____ than my brother.
- That dog is the fast_____ in the whole pack.
- This bucket is heav_____ than that bag.
- It was the hot_____ day of the whole summer.
- The slow_____ car came in last and lost the race.
- My cousin is young_____ than me by two years.
- For me, math is eas_____ than reading.
- We have the new_____ house on our street.
- I think my baby sister is the cut_____ baby in the whole world.
- My scoop of ice cream was bigg_____ than my dad's.

Name: _____ Independent Word Work Practice | @BookPagez.com

Extension Activity

Word Detective: Suffixes -er and -est Extension Activity

Directions:
Be a word detective!
Be on the lookout for **words ending in the suffixes -er and -est** while you read. Write the words that you find along with the title of the book where you found the words, the page, and the sentence with the word or phrase.

Words	Book Title	Page

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