

Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book



The Brain: All about Our Nervous System and More!
By: Seymour Simon
Grade Level: 4 / Guided Reading Level: R

Word Work

Instructional Focus:
Affixes (Latin & Greek Prefixes and Suffixes)

Background:
Understanding of Greek and Latin prefixes and suffixes can help students comprehend the building blocks of a word.

Examples:

Materials and Prep:

- A Copy of Simon
- Chart paper
- "Brainburst"
- Timer
- Dictionary
- Scissors
- Optional--
- Optional--

Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work

Introduce Latin & Greek Prefixes and Suffixes

- Explain to students that many of our English words come from the Latin and Greek languages. Therefore, it is an important strategy to learn what these prefixes and suffixes mean. Once we have learned a number of these, we can decode the words we read that share the same affixes.
- Make a table with six columns and ten rows on your chart paper or interactive whiteboard.
- Label the columns, Prefix, Meaning and Suffix, Meaning.
- Write the word, 'replay' on the board.
- Underline the prefix, 're'.
- Explain to students that 'replay' means to 'play again', and because they know this, they can transfer that knowledge to an unknown 'new' word that they might come across in their reading.
- For example, write 'relocation' on the board.
- Explain that this word has a prefix and a suffix. Underline the prefix 're' once and the suffix 'tion' twice.
- Draw attention to the word 'locate' in the middle. This is the root word.
- Explain that 'locate' means 'to find the exact place of.' To determine the meaning of 'relocation', we add this definition to the meaning of 're' (again) and the meaning of 'tion' (act or process).
- We can figure out that the meaning of 'relocation' is related to the process of finding another place. [Example: The movers will help with the family's relocation from New York to Texas.]

Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading

Latin & Greek Prefixes and Suffixes in the Text

- Explain that authors add prefixes and suffixes to a root (or base) word to enhance comprehension.
- Read the first paragraph on **page 7** aloud to students.
- Ask students to look at the word "messenger".
- Ask for volunteers to define the root word, "message." (They should say something like, "a note or letter.")
- Add the suffix "er" to the chart.
- Explain that this suffix means "one who."
- Ask students to think of a verb to explain what someone could do with a message. (They may say something like "write or deliver.") Therefore, "messenger" means "one who delivers messages."
- Ask the students how understanding this suffix could help them comprehend the meaning of another word that ends in the same suffix.

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Step by Step Lesson Plan



Independent Practice Page

Prefixes and Suffixes
Word Work Practice Page

Directions:
Underline the prefix or suffix in each word. What is the root word? Based on the prefix or suffix, what do you think the word means?

Word	Root Word	Word Definition
1. disapprove	_____	_____
2. celebration	_____	_____
3. misspell	_____	_____
4. nonstop	_____	_____
5. preview	_____	_____
6. cheerful	_____	_____
7. unfair	_____	_____
8. walked	_____	_____
9. impatient	_____	_____
10. eater	_____	_____
11. underwater	_____	_____
12. smartest	_____	_____
13. deactivate	_____	_____
14. actor	_____	_____

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

List of words in the book that match the instructional focus



Interactive Activity



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Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading (continued)

Extend Engagement

Word Tree

- Draw a tree on your chart or SMART board.
- Write a prefix or suffix under the tree.
- Ask students to create words using the prefix or suffix.
- Add their responses to the tree's branches.
- Choose another prefix or suffix and create new words.

Latin & Greek Prefixes and Suffixes in the Text

- Tell students that the book you are reading today has lots of examples of words with prefixes and suffixes.
- Ask them to listen for prefixes and suffixes, such as the ones on the anchor chart, and raise their hand when they hear one. Explain that some words will have both a prefix and a suffix.
- Read page 1 aloud.
- Ask students to identify words with a prefix or suffix that they heard. (Examples: remember, around, inside, copying, doing, etc.)
- Discuss how the addition of these affixes changes the meaning of the root word.

Examples of Latin & Greek Prefixes and Suffixes Found in the Text:

Prefixes	Suffixes
• reflexes	• computer
• reverses	• spiral
• discovers	• function
• underneath	• nervous
• invading	• central

Other prefixes and suffixes:

Prefix	Meaning	Example	Suffix	Meaning	Example
un-	Not	unstable	-A, -es	More than one	socks
mis-	Bad or wrong	misbehave	-ed	Past tense verb	talked
B, B, in-	Not	irresponsible	-ly	Changes adjective to adverb	carefully
non-	Not	nonfiction	-ing	Present tense verb	reading

Interactive Exploration

- Divide the class into two teams and place them on opposite sides of the room.
- Explain that this activity will involve creating words using various Latin and Greek prefixes and suffixes.
- Ensure that students have paper and pencils.
- Explain that the first two players from each team will have two minutes to create as many words as they can with a given prefix or suffix from a card. (Cards should be cut out beforehand.)
- The object of the game is to list as many unique words as possible before time runs out. Teammates may help but should keep their voices low to prevent the other team from overhearing.

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Extension Activity



"Brainburst" Prefix and Suffix Word Cards

Directions:
Cut the words out along the dotted lines.

Materials:

- Prefix and Suffix Cards
- Timer
- Paper
- Pencils

Players:

- 2 teams

re	ing	dis
de	un	im
under	ly	pre
en	s	non
tion	ous	mis
est	in	ful
able	er	ness

Guided Word Work Practice | @BookPagez.com

Word Detective: Prefixes and Suffixes
Extension Activity

Directions:
Be a word detective!

Be on the lookout for affixes (Latin & Greek prefixes and suffixes) while you read. Write the word that you find along with the title of the book where you found the word, the page, and the sentence with the word or phrase.

Word	Book Title	Page	Sentence

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