

# WORD WORK LESSON PLAN AND ACTIVITIES

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book



**The Undeclared**  
By: Kwame Alexander  
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: K

**Word Work**

**Instructional Focus:**  
The Prefix "un"

**Background:**  
A prefix is a word part meaning. The prefix un- mostly adjectives, it usually means the opposite.

For example:  
 • happy → unhappy  
 • fair → unfair (not fair)

At the 4th grade level:  
 • The prefix un- can be added to many words.  
 • The base word keeps its meaning in most cases.  
 • Understanding prefixes helps students understand words in context.

**Examples:**

undeniable
unheard
untitled

**Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading (continued)**

**Prefix "un" in the Text**

- Add this word to the anchor chart.
- Tell students that you will read the book once from beginning to end. Tell them to listen for words that have the prefix "un-".
- Tell them to give a silent thumbs up with they hear or see a word with the prefix "un-".
- Ask students to use context clues from the poem and illustrations to determine what these words mean.
- Remind students to be quiet and polite while you read.
- Read *The Undeclared*.

**Examples of words that have prefix "un" found in the text:**

• undefeated	• unspeakable	• unbending
• unforgettable	• unlimited	• uncertain
• undeniable	• unstoppage	• unspoken
• unflappable	• undiscovered	• untitled
• unafraid	• unbelievable	

**Step 3: Guided Word Work Practice**

**Interactive Exploration**

- Divide students into groups of three.
- Provide each group with a set of Word Cards and a set of Meaning Cards.
- Tell students that they will shuffle the Word Cards and Meaning Cards together. Tell students that every Word Card has a matching Meaning Card (e.g. "untouched" matches "not able to be touched") and vice versa.
- Tell students that they will deal out the cards so that each person has 8 cards in their hands. Remind students that they will hold a mix of Word Cards and Meaning Cards.
- Tell students that they will take turns picking one of their cards and saying "I have \_\_\_\_\_, who has \_\_\_\_\_." They may pick a Word Card or a Meaning Card, so long as they know what to ask for (e.g. "I have 'not able to be touched'...who has 'untouched'").
- Tell students that their goal is to match the cards in their hands with their corresponding Word Card or Meaning Card.
- Tell students that if they do not say a complete phrase for "I have \_\_\_\_\_, who has \_\_\_\_\_," then their turn is skipped, and it goes to the next player. Tell students that it is important to take their time and think through what Word Card or Meaning Card they should be searching for.

Word Work Lesson Plan | ©BookPagez.com

List of words in the book that match the instructional focus



Step by Step Lesson Plan



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Prefix "un"**

**Directions:**  
Create new words by adding the prefix "un-" to the words below. Then, use what you know about the root word to tell what the word's new meaning is with "un-".

_____ true	_____ breakable	
_____ safe	_____ lucky	
_____ usual	_____ plugged	

**Directions:**  
Below are 8 simple definitions for 8 words with the prefix "un-". Use your prior knowledge and the meaning of words to help you figure out the missing word with "un-". Then, choose 2 words from the list below to use in a short, 2-line poem.

Not written	
Not changed/stayed the same	
Cannot be stopped	
Not important	
Not believable/hard to believe	
Not steady or stable	
Not prepared or ready	
Cannot be beaten	

**"Un-" Poem**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Independent Word Work Practice | ©BookPagez.com

**Prefix "un"**

ing the prefix "un-" to the words below. Then, use what you know about the root word to tell what the word's new meaning is with "un-".

true	_____ breakable	Cannot be broken
safe	_____ lucky	Not lucky
normal	_____ plugged	Not plugged in

**Directions:**  
Below are 8 words with the prefix "un-". Use your prior knowledge and the meaning of words to help you figure out the missing word from the list below to use in a short, 2-line poem.

the same	unwritten
_____	unchanged
_____	unstoppable
_____	unimportant
_____	unbelievable
_____	unstable
_____	unprepared or ready
_____	unbeatable

**"Un-" Poem**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Independent Word Work Practice Answer Key | ©BookPagez.com

Independent Practice Page and Answer Key

**Word Cards**  
Interactive Activity

untouchable	unwanted	unspoken
unprepared	unhealthy	unlucky
unlocked	unchanged	unstoppable
untidy	unbelievable	undefeated

Guided Word Work Practice | ©BookPagez.com

Interactive Activity

**Un- Opposites Challenge**  
Extend Engagement Activity

**Directions:**

- Have students sit at their desks.
- Tell students that you will play a game of opposites by stating a word and asking them to come up with the opposite by adding the prefix "un-" to your word.
- Tell students that you will write your word on the board for them to visualize as well.
- Then, tell students that they must try to explain what the opposite words mean (e.g. "washed" vs. "unwashed"). Tell students that they can use motions or actions to help explain word meanings if needed.
- Once a student has said the opposite word with "un-" correctly and explained the meaning of the opposite word pair, they can write their word with "un-" on the board next to its opposite, and move onto the next activity or line up for their next class.
- If a student does not say the opposite word correctly, or is not able to explain what the opposite word pair means, have them call on a friend for help, or give them some additional thinking cues to work through if themselves.

**Note for Teachers:**  
The meanings for the word pairs are loose guidelines to help your teaching. Students will define the word pairs in language that makes sense to them.

Teacher Directions | ©BookPagez.com

Optional Activity to Extend Engagement

**Word Detective: Prefix "un"**  
Extension Activity

**Directions:**  
Be a word detective!

Be on the lookout for words with prefix un- 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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Word Work Extension Activity | ©BookPagez.com

Extension Activity