

ROOTS AND AFFIXES:

Unlocking Word Meanings



Welcome, 4th graders!

- Today, we will enter into the exciting world of roots and affixes— what they are and how to use them.
- We will then complete a short word builder quiz to check our knowledge.



Imagine words as plants that grow and develop.

Just like plants, words have roots and affixes that contribute to their growth and meaning.



Roots: the Foundation

The root is the main part of a word that carries its core meaning.

Did you know that most of our root words in English came from the Greek and Latin languages.

For example:

"Bio" (life)

"Tele" (distance)

"Photo" (light)



Affixes

Just like nutrients that help plants grow, affixes are added to words to change meaning.

There are two types of affixes:
prefixes and **suffixes**!



Prefixes: Adding Meaning at the Beginning

This type of affix is added to the start of a word. Here are some examples.

para– + medic = paramedic

fire– + fighter = firefighter

in– + ferno = inferno



Suffixes: Adding Meaning at the End

This type of affix is added at the end of words, like a finishing touch. Here are some examples.

help + **-ful** = helpful

serve + **-ice** = service

earth + **-quake** = earthquake



Word Builder Challenge

Are you ready?

Pair up with a classmate and test your knowledge of roots and affixes.



Word Builder Challenge

What root or suffix will you add to make a new word?

1. Alex will use a tele_____ to observe the meteor shower.

a. scope

c. logy

b. graph.

d. lamb



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Word Builder Challenge

What root or suffix will you add to make a new word?

2. The aqua_____ was full of bright fish and a variety of sea animals.

a. rium

c. logy

b. duct

d. sophy



Word Builder Challenge

What root or suffix will you add to make a new word?

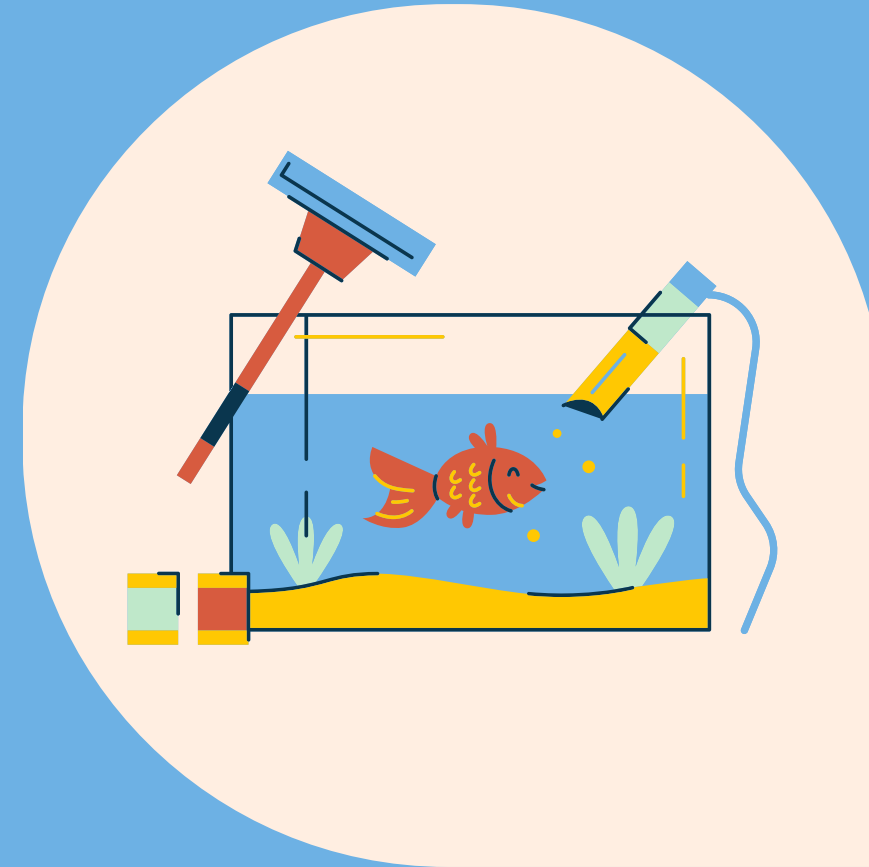
2. The aqua_____ was full of bright fish and a variety of sea animals.

a. rium

c. logy

b. duct

d. sophy



Word Builder Challenge

What root or suffix will you add to make a new word?

3. Her expertise is the study of animals or zoo_____.

a. rium

c. logy

b. duct

d. sophy



Word Builder Challenge

What root or suffix will you add to make a new word?

3. Her expertise is the study of animals or zoo_____.

a. rium

c. logy

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Remember:

Roots are the core of a word.

You can change a word by adding an affix before or after the root.

Prefix adds meaning at the beginning of a word and suffix adds meaning at the end of the word.

Knowing roots and affixes help expand our vocabulary!

Knowing roots and affixes help expand our vocabulary.

By mastering the art of combining roots and affixes, we will be able to express ourselves more effectively!



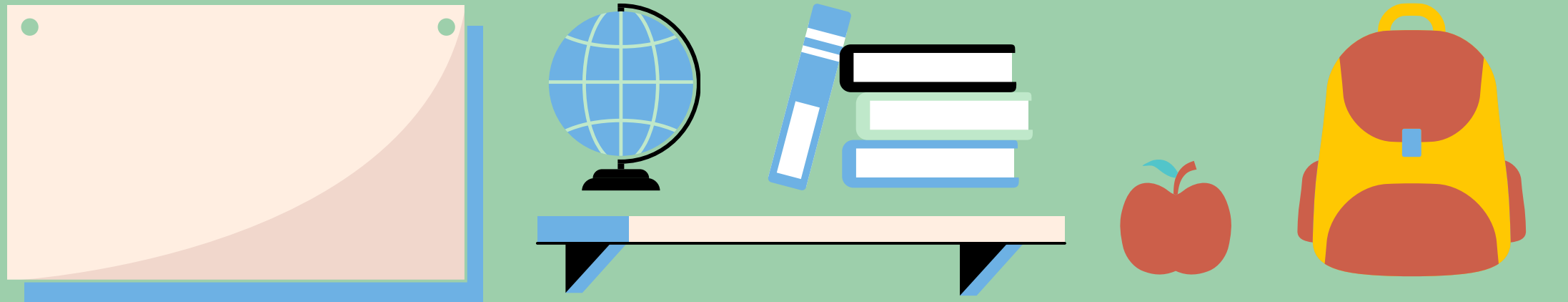


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