Birdhouse Word Parts

Use spelling, sound, and word parts to find meaning.

3.LF.13.a "Make connections to a word's structure using knowledge of phonology, morphology, and orthography of the word to aid learning."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Find repaint, untie, painter, and slowly, then underline the base word in each and circle the letters added to it.

A Fresh Coat for the Birdhouse

1. Our class was fixing the old birdhouse outside our room. Its blue paint had peeled away, and a string held its little door shut. Maya said we should repaint it before the rain came. I had to untie the tight knot first. I pulled one end of the string, but the knot only got smaller. Maya held the door while I tried again.

2. A painter from the school art club brought a small can of yellow paint. She showed us how to brush paint along the wood, not across the cracks. I moved slowly so no drops fell on the grass. At last, the birdhouse looked bright. She smiled, but she pointed to one spot near the roof that still needed paint.

3. When the paint dried, Maya hung the birdhouse on a low branch. A bird landed nearby and looked at it from the fence. We stood back to give the bird space. Our teacher said the round hole could lead to a safe place to nest. A breeze moved the string on the little door, but its knot now held firm.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Say repaint in two beats. Which letters make the first beat, and what do they tell you Maya wants to do?

2. How do the letters un- help you understand what the child needs to do to the knot?

3. Which letters are added to paint to make painter? What does painter mean in the story?

4. Say slowly in two beats. Which ending is added to slow, and how did the child move?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose a base word that is not paint, tie, or slow, and add re-, un-, -er, or -ly to make a new word. Write two sentences: tell which letters you added and what your word means, then use your word in a sentence about something you do.

ANSWER KEY

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GRADE 3 · 3.LF.13.a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Find repaint, untie, painter, and slowly, then underline the base word in each and circle the letters added to it. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Say repaint in two beats. Which letters make the first beat, and what do they tell you Maya wants to do?	**Re- makes the first beat. It means Maya wants to paint the birdhouse again.**
2	How do the letters un- help you understand what the child needs to do to the knot?	**Un- shows a reverse action. The child needs to undo the knot.**
3	Which letters are added to paint to make painter? What does painter mean in the story?	**The letters -er are added. A painter is a person who paints.**
4	Say slowly in two beats. Which ending is added to slow, and how did the child move?	**The ending -ly is added. The child moved in a slow way.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I added re- to pack to make repack, which means to pack again. I repack my lunch bag after I wash it.

For the marking job, accept paint in repaint and painter, tie in untie, and slow in slowly as underlined bases. The circled letters should be re-, un-, -er, and -ly.