Word Ending Sort

Use suffixes to sort nouns and adjectives.

3.LF.15.e "Sort words with shared and varied suffixes by parts of speech."

NAME _____ DATE _____

NOUN

A noun names a person, place, thing, or idea. Words ending in -ness or -ment are often nouns.

excitement

ADJECTIVE

An adjective describes a noun. Words ending in -ful or -less are often adjectives.

peaceful

1 SORT

8 items

Circle NOUN or ADJECTIVE for each word, then choose two words and explain how you knew where they belonged in Part 2.

1.	darkness	NOUN ADJECTIVE
2.	payment	NOUN ADJECTIVE
3.	playful	NOUN ADJECTIVE
4.	kindness	NOUN ADJECTIVE
5.	careless	NOUN ADJECTIVE
6.	hopeful	NOUN ADJECTIVE
7.	enjoyment	NOUN ADJECTIVE
8.	sadness	NOUN ADJECTIVE

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new noun ending in -ness or -ment and one new adjective ending in -ful or -less.

NOUN _____

ADJECTIVE _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence using a new noun ending in -ment and a new adjective ending in -less, and underline both words.

ANSWER KEY

Word Ending Sort

GRADE 3 · 3.LF.15.e

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	darkness	**NOUN**	The suffix -ness makes darkness a noun that names an idea.
2	payment	**NOUN**	The suffix -ment makes payment a noun.
3	playful	**ADJECTIVE**	The suffix -ful makes playful an adjective that describes a noun.
4	kindness	**NOUN**	The suffix -ness makes kindness a noun that names an idea.
5	careless	**ADJECTIVE**	The suffix -less makes careless an adjective that describes a noun.
6	hopeful	**ADJECTIVE**	The suffix -ful makes hopeful an adjective that describes a noun.
7	enjoyment	**NOUN**	The suffix -ment makes enjoyment a noun that names an idea.
8	sadness	**NOUN**	The suffix -ness makes sadness a noun that names an idea.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **NOUN**: brightness
- **ADJECTIVE**: fearless

Challenge: The restless child heard an announcement.

For Part 2, a student might explain that darkness ends in -ness, so it is a noun. Playful ends in -ful, so it is an adjective.