

# Suffix Word Sort

Sort words by the ending that helps you read their meaning.

**ELA.3.F.1.3** "Use knowledge of grade-level phonics and word-analysis skills to decode words. a. Decode words with common Greek and Latin roots and affixes. (See 3.V.1.2 ) b..."

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## WORDS ENDING IN -FUL

The ending -ful means "full of." It often turns a word into an adjective.

joyful

## WORDS ENDING IN -LESS

The ending -less means "without." It often turns a word into an adjective.

penniless

## 1 SORT \_\_\_\_\_ 8 items

Circle FULL or WITHOUT for each word, then choose two words and tell which ending helped you sort each one.

1. thankful

FULL

WITHOUT

2. careless

FULL

WITHOUT

3. fearless

FULL

WITHOUT

4. playful

FULL

WITHOUT

5. useful

FULL

WITHOUT

6. speechless

FULL

WITHOUT

7. colorful

FULL

WITHOUT

8. harmful

FULL

WITHOUT

## 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 -ful word and one new -less word.

FULL \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

WITHOUT \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### CHALLENGE

Choose one word you wrote and use it in a sentence that shows what it means.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## PART 1 • SORT

| # | ITEM       | CATEGORY       | WHY                                       |
|---|------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 1 | thankful   | <b>FULL</b>    | It ends in -ful, meaning full of thanks.  |
| 2 | careless   | <b>WITHOUT</b> | It ends in -less, meaning without care.   |
| 3 | fearless   | <b>WITHOUT</b> | It ends in -less, meaning without fear.   |
| 4 | playful    | <b>FULL</b>    | It ends in -ful, meaning full of play.    |
| 5 | useful     | <b>FULL</b>    | It ends in -ful, meaning full of use.     |
| 6 | speechless | <b>WITHOUT</b> | It ends in -less, meaning without speech. |
| 7 | colorful   | <b>FULL</b>    | It ends in -ful, meaning full of color.   |
| 8 | harmful    | <b>FULL</b>    | It ends in -ful, meaning full of harm.    |

## 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)

- **FULL:** careful
- **WITHOUT:** endless

**Challenge:** The careful painter moved slowly near the wet wall.

For Part 2, accept explanations that name the ending -ful or -less and connect it to “full of” or “without.” Both endings commonly turn a base word into an adjective.