Word Parts Sort

Find roots and affixes in words.

3.L.V.2.a "Deconstruct words using common roots, root words, and affixes to determine meaning. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

ROOT WORD

A root word can stand alone and has meaning. In this sort, no prefix or suffix is added to it.

jump

BUILT WORD

A built word has a root word plus a prefix or suffix. The affix changes the root word's meaning.

fearless

1 SORT

8 items

Circle ROOT or BUILT for each word, then pick two words and write how their roots or affixes helped you decide.

1.	unfair	ROOT BUILT
2.	farmer	ROOT BUILT
3.	drum	ROOT BUILT
4.	redo	ROOT BUILT
5.	sleep	ROOT BUILT
6.	clean	ROOT BUILT
7.	playful	ROOT BUILT
8.	help	ROOT BUILT

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 ROOT word and one new BUILT word.

ROOT _____

BUILT _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one BUILT word from the sort. Write its root word, name its affix, and tell what the whole word means.

ANSWER KEY

Word Parts Sort

GRADE 3 · 3.L.V.2.a

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	unfair	**BUILT**	un- is a prefix added to fair.
2	farmer	**BUILT**	-er is a suffix added to farm.
3	drum	**ROOT**	It is a word that stands alone with no added affix.
4	redo	**BUILT**	re- is a prefix added to do.
5	sleep	**ROOT**	It is a word that stands alone with no added affix.
6	clean	**ROOT**	It is a word that stands alone with no added affix.
7	playful	**BUILT**	-ful is a suffix added to play.
8	help	**ROOT**	It is a word that stands alone with no added affix.

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)

- **ROOT**: river
- **BUILT**: joyful

Challenge: redo: Root word: do. Affix: re-. Meaning: do again.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Accept other correct root words and built words with clear common prefixes or suffixes. For the written explanation, students should correctly identify a root word or an affix in each chosen word.