Birdhouse Word Builders

Use prefixes and suffixes to unlock words.

4.F.P.4.c "Decode and encode words with common prefixes and suffixes."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words that use the prefixes un- or re-. Circle words that end in -ful, -less, or -ment to help you read and spell them.

A Birdhouse Repair

1. After a windy night, Maya found that the small birdhouse near the school garden was unsafe. One side had come loose, and rain could get into the nest space. She asked the garden club for help. The group agreed to rebuild the birdhouse before spring. They planned a careful fix so birds could use it again.

2. Maya took away a few broken pieces. She was not careless, so she wore gloves and kept nails in a cup. Next, the club measured a new board and attached it firmly. Their teacher explained that a sturdy birdhouse gives young birds a dry place during storms. Everyone worked quietly because the nesting area needed protection.

3. When the work was finished, the birdhouse looked colorful and strong. Maya felt excitement when a wren inspected the roof from a nearby branch. The club posted a sign that asked visitors not to disturb nests. Later, Maya reread the sign and checked the birdhouse. Her helpful actions made the garden a safer place for wildlife.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Put un- and safe together. What word from paragraph 1 do they spell?

2. What prefix and base word make rebuild?

3. In careless, what does the suffix -less mean?

4. What base word and suffix make colorful?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two sentences about caring for a place outdoors. Use one word with un- or re- and one word ending in -ful, -less, or -ment. Underline each prefix or suffix you use.

ANSWER KEY

Birdhouse Word Builders

GRADE 4 · 4.F.P.4.c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline words that use the prefixes un- or re-. Circle words that end in -ful, -less, or -ment to help you read and spell them. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Put un- and safe together. What word from paragraph 1 do they spell?	**unsafe**
2	What prefix and base word make rebuild?	**re- and build**
3	In careless, what does the suffix -less mean?	**without**
4	What base word and suffix make colorful?	**color and -ful**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

We rebuilt the trail fence after the storm. The group made a careful plan to keep hikers safe.

Accept correctly formed words with the required prefix or suffix when they fit the student's sentences. For Part 1, students should underline unsafe, rebuild, and reread, and circle careful, careless, colorful, excitement, and helpful.