Reef Word Detectives

Read multisyllable words by noticing prefixes and suffixes.

5.F.P.4 "Decoding & Encoding with Phonics: Use knowledge of phonics to decode and encode grade-level words."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the six words that have the suffix -able, -tion, or -ment. Circle the suffix in each word, circling -ment before the final s in measurements.

Reef Research

1. At sunrise, a marine science team traveled to a coral reef near an island. Their mission was to observe how the reef changed after a powerful storm. The researchers carried waterproof notebooks, reusable water bottles, and measuring tools. They recorded the temperature, depth, and clarity of the water before entering the shallow lagoon during low tide.

2. Coral reefs are built by tiny animals called polyps. Although coral can look like rock, it is alive. A storm may break branches or cover coral with sand. During their observation, the team looked for signs of recovery, such as new growth and fish returning to protected spaces. They also noted any pollution drifting from boats.

3. Back on the boat, students helped sort the data. They compared today's measurements with records from an earlier visit. A computer program created a chart that made small differences visible. The group planned a restoration project, including a rule that boats should avoid dropping anchors on the reef. Careful observation can guide decisions that protect this busy underwater habitat.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Write the complete word in Paragraph 1 that means “able to be used again.”

2. Copy observation from Paragraph 2. What four-letter suffix is at the end of the word?

3. In Paragraph 3, write the base word in measurements. Then write the suffix that helps make it a noun.

4. Write the word in Paragraph 3 that begins with re- and ends with -tion.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write exactly two sentences about protecting an outdoor place. Use and underline one word that begins with re- and one word that ends with -tion.

ANSWER KEY

Reef Word Detectives

GRADE 5 · 5.F.P.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the six words that have the suffix -able, -tion, or -ment. Circle the suffix in each word, circling -ment before the final s in measurements. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Write the complete word in Paragraph 1 that means "able to be used again."	**reusable**
2	Copy observation from Paragraph 2. What four-letter suffix is at the end of the word?	**observation; -tion**
3	In Paragraph 3, write the base word in measurements. Then write the suffix that helps make it a noun.	**measure; -ment**
4	Write the word in Paragraph 3 that begins with re- and ends with -tion.	**restoration**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our class will replant native grass beside the trail. This action helps prevent erosion after heavy rain.

For the marking job, the six instances are reusable, observation in Paragraph 2, pollution, measurements, restoration, and observation in Paragraph 3. For Part 3, accept any two complete sentences with correctly spelled, underlined words that meet both word-pattern requirements.