

Suffix Signal Sort

Use suffixes to find each word's meaning.

5.L.V.2.c "Construct words using knowledge of Greek and Latin roots, root words, and affixes. (C)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

MEANS FULL OF

Words ending in -ful mean full of the root word.
Colorful means full of color.

colorful

MEANS WITHOUT

Words ending in -less mean without the root word.
Endless means without an end.

endless

1 SORT

8 items

Circle FULL OF or WITHOUT for each word, then choose two words and explain how the suffix helped you sort them.

1. hopeful

FULL OF

WITHOUT

2. harmless

FULL OF

WITHOUT

3. thankful

FULL OF

WITHOUT

4. playful

FULL OF

WITHOUT

5. fearless

FULL OF

WITHOUT

6. careless

FULL OF

WITHOUT

7. joyful

FULL OF

WITHOUT

8. powerless

FULL OF

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 word ending in -ful and one new word ending in -less.

FULL OF _____

WITHOUT _____

CHALLENGE

Write a sentence using a new -ful word and a new -less word, then tell what each suffix means.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	hopeful	FULL OF	hope + -ful means full of hope.
2	harmless	WITHOUT	harm + -less means without harm.
3	thankful	FULL OF	thank + -ful means full of thanks.
4	playful	FULL OF	play + -ful means full of play.
5	fearless	WITHOUT	fear + -less means without fear.
6	careless	WITHOUT	care + -less means without care.
7	joyful	FULL OF	joy + -ful means full of joy.
8	powerless	WITHOUT	power + -less means without power.

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 OF:** helpful
- **WITHOUT:** penniless

Challenge: The thoughtful nurse comforted the restless child. The suffix -ful means full of, and the suffix -less means without.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify -ful as meaning full of and -less as meaning without. Part 3 answers may vary if each word uses the correct suffix and has a sensible meaning.