Word Ending Switch

Read each word pair and sort how it changes.

3.RF.2 "Read grade-appropriate words that have blends (e.g., walk, play) and common spelling patterns (e.g., qu-; doubling the consonant and adding –ing, such as cut/cutting; changing the ending of a word from –y to –ies to make a plural)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

DOUBLE THE LAST LETTER

In many one-syllable words with one short vowel followed by one consonant, double the last consonant before adding -ing.

tap → tapping

JUST ADD -ING

If a word ends in two consonant letters, or has two vowel letters before its last consonant, keep the word the same and add -ing.

rain → raining

1 SORT

8 items

Circle DOUBLE or ADD for each word pair, then choose one pair from each group and explain how you knew.

1. sit → sitting — DOUBLE / ADD
2. run → running — DOUBLE / ADD
3. help → helping — DOUBLE / ADD
4. hop → hopping — DOUBLE / ADD
5. wash → washing — DOUBLE / ADD
6. look → looking — DOUBLE / ADD
7. walk → walking — DOUBLE / ADD
8. cut → cutting — DOUBLE / ADD

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 pair for DOUBLE and one new word pair for ADD. Use words that are not shown on this page.

DOUBLE _____

ADD _____

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences, each using a different -ing word from your new pairs, and underline both -ing words.

ANSWER KEY

Word Ending Switch

GRADE 3 · 3.RF.2

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	sit → sitting	**DOUBLE**	The short vowel is followed by one final consonant, so t doubles.
2	run → running	**DOUBLE**	The short vowel is followed by one final consonant, so n doubles.
3	help → helping	**ADD**	Help ends in two consonant letters, so only -ing is added.
4	hop → hopping	**DOUBLE**	The short vowel is followed by one final consonant, so p doubles.
5	wash → washing	**ADD**	Wash ends in two consonant letters, so only -ing is added.
6	look → looking	**ADD**	Look has two vowel letters before its last consonant, so only -ing is added.
7	walk → walking	**ADD**	Walk ends in two consonant letters, so only -ing is added.
8	cut → cutting	**DOUBLE**	The short vowel is followed by one final consonant, so t doubles.

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)

- **DOUBLE**: pet → petting
- **ADD**: keep → keeping

Challenge: I am petting my dog. My sister is keeping score.

For Part 2, look for one explanation about doubling a consonant after a short vowel and one about adding -ing without changing the word.