Ending Rule Detectives

Two spelling moves for adding -ing

4.W.7.c "Spelling – Using spelling patterns and generalizations (e.g., word families, position-based spellings, syllable patterns, ending rules, meaningful word parts, homophones/homographs) in writing single and multisyllable words."

NAME _____ DATE _____

DROP THE E

When a word ends in a silent e, drop the e before adding -ing.

smile → smiling

DOUBLE THE LAST LETTER

When a one-syllable word ends with one consonant after one short vowel, double the last consonant before adding -ing.

tap → tapping

1 SORT

8 items

Circle DROP or DOUBLE for each word pair, then choose two pairs and explain the spelling clue for each.

1. stop → stopping — DROP / DOUBLE

2. clap → clapping — DROP / DOUBLE

3. swim → swimming — DROP / DOUBLE

4. invite → inviting — DROP / DOUBLE

5. run → running — DROP / DOUBLE

6. sit → sitting — DROP / DOUBLE

7. ride → riding — DROP / DOUBLE

8. hike → hiking — DROP / DOUBLE

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 DROP and one new word pair for DOUBLE.

DROP _____

DOUBLE _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence using a new DROP word and a new DOUBLE word that end in -ing, and underline both words.

ANSWER KEY

Ending Rule Detectives

GRADE 4 · 4.W.7.c

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	stop → stopping	**DOUBLE**	Stop has one syllable and ends with one consonant after a short vowel.
2	clap → clapping	**DOUBLE**	Clap has one syllable and ends with one consonant after a short vowel.
3	swim → swimming	**DOUBLE**	Swim has one syllable and ends with one consonant after a short vowel.
4	invite → inviting	**DROP**	Invite ends in a silent e that is dropped before -ing.
5	run → running	**DOUBLE**	Run has one syllable and ends with one consonant after a short vowel.
6	sit → sitting	**DOUBLE**	Sit has one syllable and ends with one consonant after a short vowel.
7	ride → riding	**DROP**	Ride ends in a silent e that is dropped before -ing.
8	hike → hiking	**DROP**	Hike ends in a silent e that is dropped before -ing.

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)

- **DROP**: wave → waving
- **DOUBLE**: grab → grabbing

Challenge: My cousin is racing while I am jogging.

For Part 2, accept two correctly identified spelling clues. For Part 3, accept new word pairs that follow the rules; the challenge sentence must use and underline one new word from each category.