The Y Switch

Sort words made by adding -ed.

L.3.2.e "Use conventional spelling for high-frequency words where suffixes are added to base words."

NAME _____ DATE _____

CHANGE Y

When a consonant comes before the final y, change y to i before adding -ed.

worry + ed = worried

KEEP Y

When a vowel comes before the final y, keep the y and add -ed.

delay + ed = delayed

1 SORT

8 items

Circle CHANGE or STAY for each item, then pick two items and explain how you knew where they belonged.

1.	try + ed = tried	CHANGE STAY
2.	cry + ed = cried	CHANGE STAY
3.	play + ed = played	CHANGE STAY
4.	carry + ed = carried	CHANGE STAY
5.	stay + ed = stayed	CHANGE STAY
6.	enjoy + ed = enjoyed	CHANGE STAY
7.	dry + ed = dried	CHANGE STAY
8.	pray + ed = prayed	CHANGE STAY

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 base word plus -ed example for CHANGE and one for STAY.

CHANGE _____

STAY _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence using both of your new -ed words, and underline those words.

ANSWER KEY # The Y Switch

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	try + ed = tried	**CHANGE**	The consonant r comes before y, so y changes to i.
2	cry + ed = cried	**CHANGE**	The consonant r comes before y, so y changes to i.
3	play + ed = played	**STAY**	The vowel a comes before y, so y stays.
4	carry + ed = carried	**CHANGE**	The consonant r comes before y, so y changes to i.
5	stay + ed = stayed	**STAY**	The vowel a comes before y, so y stays.
6	enjoy + ed = enjoyed	**STAY**	The vowel o comes before y, so y stays.
7	dry + ed = dried	**CHANGE**	The consonant r comes before y, so y changes to i.
8	pray + ed = prayed	**STAY**	The vowel a comes before y, so y stays.

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)

- **CHANGE**: study + ed = studied
- **STAY**: spray + ed = sprayed

Challenge: I studied the plants while Dad sprayed the garden.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify the letter before the final y and tell whether the y changes or stays. In Part 3, check that each new example follows the rule.