# Word Part Detectives

Find word parts at the start or end.

**RF.2.3.e** "Identify, decode, encode and know the meaning of words with the most common prefixes and derivational suffixes."

NAME _____ DATE _____

**PREFIX**

A prefix is added to the start of a word to change its meaning.

In **un**fair, un- means not.

**SUFFIX**

A suffix is added to the end of a word to make a new word.

In peace**ful**, -ful means full of.

## 1 SORT

8 items

Circle PREFIX or SUFFIX for each word, then pick two words and explain how you knew where they belong.

1. unkind — PREFIX SUFFIX
2. replay — PREFIX SUFFIX
3. hopeful — PREFIX SUFFIX
4. untrue — PREFIX SUFFIX
5. fearless — PREFIX SUFFIX
6. colorful — PREFIX SUFFIX
7. redo — PREFIX SUFFIX
8. unhappy — PREFIX SUFFIX

## 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 with a prefix and one new word with a suffix. Do not use words from Part 1 or the rule box.

**PREFIX** _____

**SUFFIX** _____

**CHALLENGE**

Write a word with both a prefix and a suffix, then tell what it means.

**ANSWER KEY**

# Word Part Detectives

**GRADE 2 · RF.2.3.e**

## PART 1 · SORT

| # | ITEM | CATEGORY | WHY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | unkind | **PREFIX** | Un- is added to the start of kind and means not. |
| 2 | replay | **PREFIX** | Re- is added to the start of play and means again. |
| 3 | hopeful | **SUFFIX** | -ful is added to the end of hope. |
| 4 | untrue | **PREFIX** | Un- is added to the start of true and means not. |
| 5 | fearless | **SUFFIX** | -less is added to the end of fear and means without. |
| 6 | colorful | **SUFFIX** | -ful is added to the end of color. |
| 7 | redo | **PREFIX** | Re- is added to the start of do and means again. |
| 8 | unhappy | **PREFIX** | Un- is added to the start of happy and means not. |

## 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)

- **PREFIX**: reread
- **SUFFIX**: thankful

**Challenge:** Unhelpful means not giving help.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify the added part and whether it is at the start or end of the word. For the challenge, unhelpful has the prefix un- and the suffix -ful.