Word Part Detectives

Sort words by how their parts work together.

2.2.PWS.3 "Students will decode words by applying knowledge of structural analysis: a. compound words b. inflectional endings (e.g., -s, -ed, -ing) c. contractions d. abbreviations e. common roots and related prefixes and suffixes"

NAME _____ DATE _____

COMPOUND WORD

A compound word joins two words that can each stand alone.

rainbow = rain + bow

WORD WITH -ING

A word with -ing has an action word and the ending -ing.

jumping = jump + ing

1 SORT

8 items

Circle a group for each word; then pick one word from each group and write how you know where it belongs.

1. sunset — COMPOUND ENDING
2. playing — COMPOUND ENDING
3. looking — COMPOUND ENDING
4. bathtub — COMPOUND ENDING
5. backpack — COMPOUND ENDING
6. helping — COMPOUND ENDING
7. snowman — COMPOUND ENDING
8. football — COMPOUND ENDING

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick one word from each group and write how you know where it belongs.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new compound word and one new word with -ing.

COMPOUND _____

ENDING _____

CHALLENGE

Write a sentence with a compound word and a word with -ing, then underline both words.

ANSWER KEY # Word Part Detectives

GRADE 2 · 2.2.PWS.3

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	sunset	**COMPOUND**	Sun and set can each stand alone.
2	playing	**ENDING**	Play is an action word with -ing added.
3	looking	**ENDING**	Look is an action word with -ing added.
4	bathtub	**COMPOUND**	Bath and tub can each stand alone.
5	backpack	**COMPOUND**	Back and pack can each stand alone.
6	helping	**ENDING**	Help is an action word with -ing added.
7	snowman	**COMPOUND**	Snow and man can each stand alone.
8	football	**COMPOUND**	Foot and ball can each stand alone.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Pick one word from each group and write how you know where it belongs.
Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **COMPOUND**: toothbrush
- **ENDING**: walking

Challenge: The sunflower is growing.

For Part 2, accept explanations that name both stand-alone words in a compound or show an action word plus -ing. The two selected words should come from different groups.