Change or Keep?

See what happens to a base word before a suffix.

3.2.B.vii "spelling words using knowledge of suffixes, including how they can change base words such as dropping e, changing y to i, and doubling final consonants;"

NAME _____ DATE _____

CHANGE IT

Some base words change before you add a suffix. You may drop a final e, change y to i, or double a final consonant.

shine + ing = shining

KEEP IT

Some base words keep all of their letters before you add a suffix. Just add the suffix to the end.

quick + ly = quickly

1 SORT

8 items

Circle CHANGE or KEEP for each word, then pick two items and explain what happened to the base word.

1. bake + ing = baking — CHANGE KEEP

2. run + ing = running — CHANGE KEEP

3. rain + ed = rained — CHANGE KEEP

4. try + ed = tried — CHANGE KEEP

5. soft + ly = softly — CHANGE KEEP

6. play + er = player — CHANGE KEEP

7. hope + ful = hopeful — CHANGE KEEP

8. big + er = bigger — CHANGE KEEP

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 CHANGE example and one new KEEP example.

CHANGE _____

KEEP _____

CHALLENGE

Write a CHANGE word with -ing, then tell which spelling change you made.

ANSWER KEY

Change or Keep?

GRADE 3 · TEKS 3.2.B.vii

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	bake + ing = baking	**CHANGE**	The final e is dropped before adding -ing.
2	run + ing = running	**CHANGE**	The final consonant n is doubled before adding -ing.
3	rain + ed = rained	**KEEP**	The base word rain keeps all its letters before -ed is added.
4	try + ed = tried	**CHANGE**	The y changes to i before -ed is added.
5	soft + ly = softly	**KEEP**	The base word soft keeps all its letters before -ly is added.
6	play + er = player	**KEEP**	The base word play keeps all its letters before -er is added.
7	hope + ful = hopeful	**KEEP**	The base word hope keeps every letter, including its final e, before -ful is added.
8	big + er = bigger	**CHANGE**	The final consonant g is doubled before adding -er.

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**: lazy + ness = laziness
- **KEEP**: kind + ness = kindness

Challenge: swim + ing = swimming. I doubled the final m before adding -ing.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. For Part 2, accept any two correctly sorted items if the student accurately explains the spelling change or explains that the base word stayed the same. Part 3 answers may vary if they follow the category rule.