

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.

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	CHANGE	The final e is dropped before adding -ful.
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.

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.