

Suffix Time Sort

Use -ing and -ed to tell when an action happens.

3.RV.1.C "Determine the meaning of complex words using frequently occurring root words and inflectional affixes (e.g. -s, -ing, -ed)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

HAPPENING NOW

Words ending in -ing can show an action happening now. Find the root word, then add the meaning of -ing.

The puppy is wagging its tail.

ALREADY HAPPENED

Words ending in -ed can show an action that already happened. Find the root word, then add the meaning of -ed.

The puppy wagged its tail.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle NOW or PAST for each sentence, then choose two sentences and write how the suffix tells when the action happened.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Mia is folding a map. | ☐ NOW | ☐ PAST |
| 2. A bird is pecking at seeds. | ☐ NOW | ☐ PAST |
| 3. Omar packed his lunch. | ☐ NOW | ☐ PAST |
| 4. The dog barked at a truck. | ☐ NOW | ☐ PAST |
| 5. We cleaned the table. | ☐ NOW | ☐ PAST |
| 6. The kids are skating at the rink. | ☐ NOW | ☐ PAST |
| 7. The wind knocked over a cone. | ☐ NOW | ☐ PAST |
| 8. A frog is splashing in the pond. | ☐ NOW | ☐ PAST |

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 sentence for NOW and one new sentence for PAST.

NOW _____

PAST _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence with an -ed word and an -ing word, and circle each suffix.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Mia is folding a map.	NOW	Folding ends in -ing and tells an action happening now.
2	A bird is pecking at seeds.	NOW	Pecking ends in -ing and tells an action happening now.
3	Omar packed his lunch.	PAST	Packed ends in -ed and tells an action already happened.
4	The dog barked at a truck.	PAST	Barked ends in -ed and tells an action already happened.
5	We cleaned the table.	PAST	Cleaned ends in -ed and tells an action already happened.
6	The kids are skating at the rink.	NOW	Skating ends in -ing and tells an action happening now.
7	The wind knocked over a cone.	PAST	Knocked ends in -ed and tells an action already happened.
8	A frog is splashing in the pond.	NOW	Splashing ends in -ing and tells an action happening now.

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)

- **NOW:** The turtle is crawling.
- **PAST:** The turtle crawled.

Challenge: I watch(ed) my brother play(ing) soccer.

Sort answers are NOW, NOW, PAST, PAST, PAST, NOW, PAST, NOW. In Part 2, students should name the suffix and explain that -ing shows now or -ed shows past.