Word Power Sort

Sort words by how strongly they show an action or quality.

4.RV.1.G "Distinguish shades of meaning among verbs and adjectives."

NAME _____ DATE _____

STRONGER WORD

These words show a more intense action or quality. Use them when you want your meaning to be more powerful.

Famished is a stronger word for hungry.

MILDER WORD

These words show a less intense action or quality. Use them when you want your meaning to be softer.

Sip is a milder word for drink.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle STRONGER or MILDER for each item, then choose two items and explain how each word changes the meaning of its basic word.

1.	gigantic for big	STRONGER MILDER
2.	stroll for walk	STRONGER MILDER
3.	annoyed for angry	STRONGER MILDER
4.	sprint for run	STRONGER MILDER
5.	freezing for cold	STRONGER MILDER
6.	roar for speak	STRONGER MILDER
7.	glance for look	STRONGER MILDER
8.	tiny for small	STRONGER MILDER

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 STRONGER word and one new MILDER word. For each one, name the basic word it could replace.

STRONGER _____

MILDER _____

CHALLENGE

Write a sentence that uses a STRONGER word. Rewrite it with a MILDER word that still fits, while keeping the main idea.

ANSWER KEY # Word Power Sort

GRADE 4 · 4.RV.1.G

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	gigantic for big	**STRONGER**	Gigantic means extremely big.
2	stroll for walk	**MILDER**	Stroll means walk in a relaxed, unhurried way.
3	annoyed for angry	**MILDER**	Annoyed is less intense than angry.
4	sprint for run	**STRONGER**	Sprint means run very fast.
5	freezing for cold	**STRONGER**	Freezing means extremely cold.
6	roar for speak	**STRONGER**	Roar means speak very loudly.
7	glance for look	**MILDER**	Glance means look quickly.
8	tiny for small	**STRONGER**	Tiny means extremely small.

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)

- **STRONGER**: delighted for happy.
- **MILDER**: murmur for talk.

Challenge: The exhausted swimmer rested. The tired swimmer rested.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Accept explanations that correctly compare each choice with its basic word. Stronger words show greater intensity, while milder words show less intensity.