

Jan.

Reading @ Home

HAPPY NEW YEAR Bear Creek Families!
I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday season and are excited for all that this year has to offer!

This month we will focus on base words, affixes and Greek and Latin roots.
According to the Journal of Educational Research, more than 60% of all English words have Greek or Latin roots. The percentage increases as students progress to more technical texts. If students are able to identify the different parts of a word, including the root, prefix, and/or suffix, word recognition will improve. This will lead to an overall improvement in vocabulary, spelling, comprehension, and fluency. I have created sample activities for K-2 and 3-5 that you can practice with your student at home. As always if you have any questions or need support please feel free to reach out. Happy reading!

-Natalie Geer
Reading Coach



k-2

Base Words & Affixes

- A base word can stand alone and has meaning (for example, help). A suffix is a word part added to the end of a word (for example, -ful). If you add the suffix -ful to the base word, help, the word is helpful. A prefix is a word part added to the beginning of a word or base word (for example, un-).
- Using the chart to the right you can help your child combine prefixes and suffixes to create new words and meanings.
- As you're reading with your child and you come across new prefixes and suffixes you can add them to the chart.

K-2 Directions: Combine the prefix or suffix to the base word to create a new word. Then, based on your knowledge of prefixes and suffixes, write the meaning of the new word.

Prefix/Suffix + Base Word	New Word	Meaning
Example: un + happy	unhappy	To feel sad
re + read		
pre + view		
joy + ful		
tall + est		

3-5

Greek & Latin Roots

- Greek and Latin roots, as well as prefixes and suffixes, can help students understand the meaning of new words and how words with the same root word have commonalities.
- Using the chart to the right you can help your child create new words using the root word and discuss what all the words have in common.
- As you're reading with your child and you come across new Greek and Latin roots you can create a new word chain.
- Additional root words to practice: cent, cir, form, multi, port, sent, vid, struct.

3-5 Directions: Compile as many words as you can that start with these Greek and Latin roots. Think about all the words you produced and what they all have in common. Develop the meaning of the root word from the commonalities and write the meaning underneath.

