

# Parent to Parent of Georgia Literacy Training Series



**Word Parts: Prefixes, Suffixes, and Roots**

# What are word parts?

- Root or base word
  - The basic part of a word that carries meaning
    - A base word can stand alone (example: *depend* in *in**dependent***).
    - A root is a word part that carries meaning but cannot stand alone (example: *cred* in *in**credible***).
- Prefix
  - A word part that is attached to the beginning of a word.
- Suffix
  - A word part that is attached to the end of a word.

Source: [https://www.interventionexpress.com/uploads/1/6/8/5/16851140/vocabulary\\_teaching\\_word\\_parts.pdf](https://www.interventionexpress.com/uploads/1/6/8/5/16851140/vocabulary_teaching_word_parts.pdf)

Let's practice:  
Find the word parts in “disagreement”?

dis agree ment

Prefix      Root Word      Suffix

# Why is it important to learn about word parts?

- Recognize words
- Decode words quickly and accurately
- Understand the meaning of unfamiliar words
- Improve spelling accuracy

## Sources:

- [https://www.interventionexpress.com/uploads/1/6/8/5/16851140/vocabulary\\_teaching\\_word\\_parts.pdf](https://www.interventionexpress.com/uploads/1/6/8/5/16851140/vocabulary_teaching_word_parts.pdf)
- <https://www.voyagersopris.com/vsl/blog/what-is-a-root-word#:~:text=Spelling%20Accuracy%3A%20Understanding%20word%20parts,look%20up%20every%20unfamiliar%20word>

# How can families help children develop word knowledge?

- Play word games
- Use visual aids such as flash cards
- Engage in simple conversations focused on words

Sources:

- <https://www.readingrockets.org/topics/spelling-and-word-study/articles/use-words-teach-words>
- <https://www.readingrockets.org/topics/spelling-and-word-study/articles/root-words-suffixes-and-prefixes>

# How to Engage in Conversation Focused on Words:

- Begin with a simple root word, such as push.
  - Ask your child to come up with words they know that contain that word, such as pushing, pushed, pushover, push-up.
  - Talk about how all these words have some shared meaning related to the word push.

Source: <https://www.readingrockets.org/topics/spelling-and-word-study/articles/use-words-teach-words>

# Consider the Prefix

- Choose a prefix that is easy to understand, like bi- or tri-
- Discuss words like tricycle, triceps, and triangle. All these words share the prefix tri-, which means three.
- Ask your child to list words that begin with the prefix bi- (like bicycle and binoculars). This gives you a great chance to introduce new words, like bicentennial and biceps.

Source: <https://www.readingrockets.org/topics/spelling-and-word-study/articles/use-words-teach-words>

# Consider the Suffix

- Choose a suffix like –less and discuss its meaning with your child. You might say, "When you see the suffix '-less' on a word, it means 'without.'"
- Ask your child to list some words that end in –less and explain their meanings.

Source:





# Word Part Resources

- [Root word resource](#)
- [Prefix/suffix resource](#)
- [Video](#)

# Please complete this questionnaire.

Parent to Parent of Georgia Literacy Training Series:



<https://forms.office.com/r/APZJcB2GP4>