THE HEART OF IT ALL™

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Literacy Academy 2025

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FOSTERING WORD CONSCIOUSNESS THROUGH MORPHOLOGY

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WHO WE ARE

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OBJECTIVES

- Understand the rationale behind integrating morphology instruction across all grade levels and content areas.
- Explore the journey of a district's implementation of a K-12 morphology initiative, including key drivers such as leadership support, professional development, and funding.
- Gain access to real-world tools and strategies used by educators at various grade levels to make morphology instruction manageable, engaging, and effective.
- Reflect on how to adapt and scale morphology instruction within their own schools or districts.

HOW WE GOT HERE

- Serving 13 districts through Teaching and Learning
- Phonics wasn't enough - anywhere
- Background in Secondary Literacy
- Collaboration among districts

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

- Vision of district-wide buy-in and application
- Admin support
- **Consistent** PD investment and guidance with ESC

ADMINISTRATION VIEWPOINT

- Supportive of implementation
- PD- allow for multiple opportunities for individuals, teams, and full staff
- Provide needed supplies
- Consistency across grade levels and district

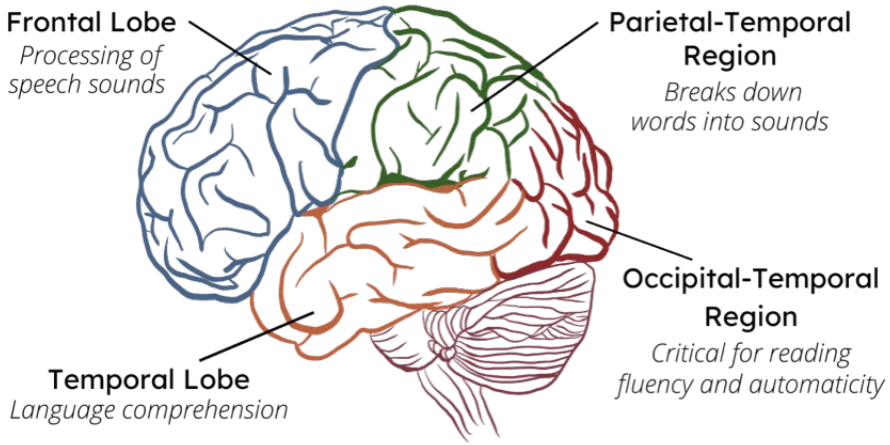
Be Creative with Funding:

* Grants
* Local Funding
* Discussions with Treasurer
* MAKE IT WORK!

ISN'T PHONICS ENOUGH?

- Some may have thought SoR was just phonics, but research indicates there is much more

- The problem with treating morphemes with a phonics-only lens



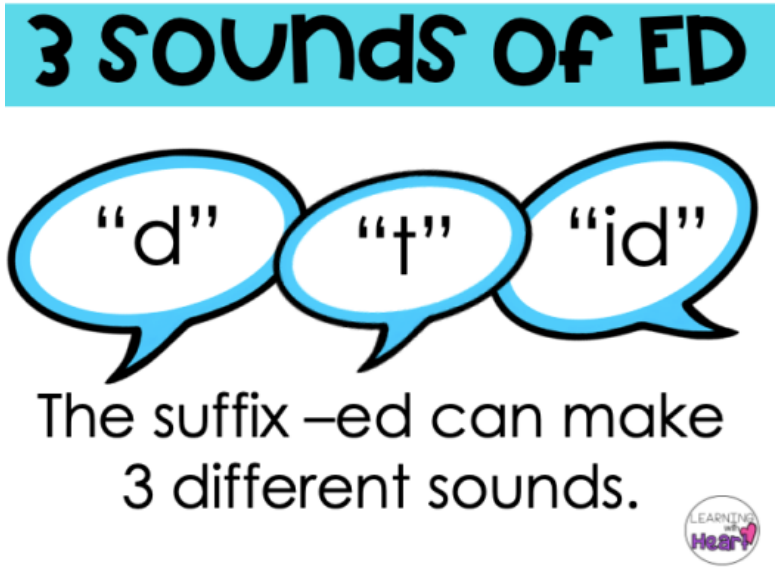
Scholastic. (2023). *What the science of reading says about our brains*. Scholastic. Retrieved May 2, 2025, from https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/teaching-tools/articles/professional-development/science-of-reading-brain.html

ENGLISH IS A MORPHOPHONEMIC LANGUAGE

- Morpheme spelling is more stable than a phonics-only spelling approach
- Adding morphology instruction increases depth of knowledge

Homophone Examples:

- cell/sell
- for/four
- sea/see
- son/sun



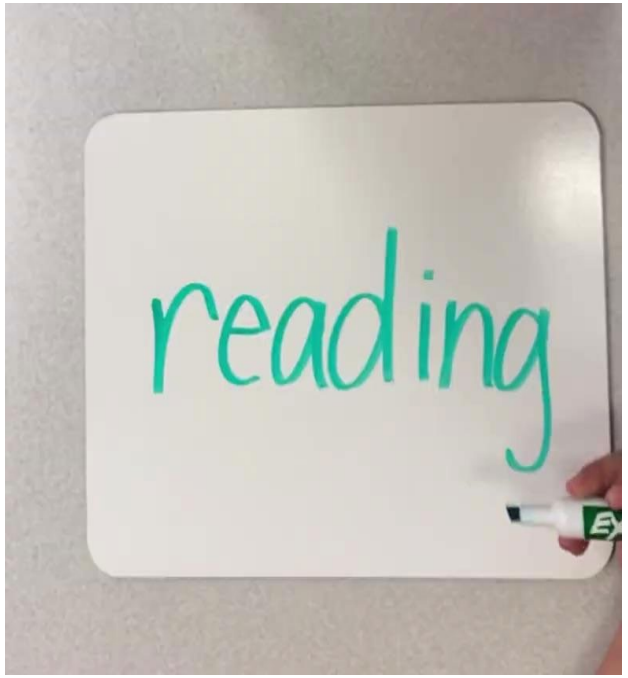
Trick Word Spelling:

do + es → does

Really Great Reading. (n.d.). *Can Scarborough's Reading Rope transform the approach to literacy instruction?* Really Great Reading. Retrieved May 2, 2025, from https://www.reallygreatreading.com/blog/scarboroughs-reading-rope

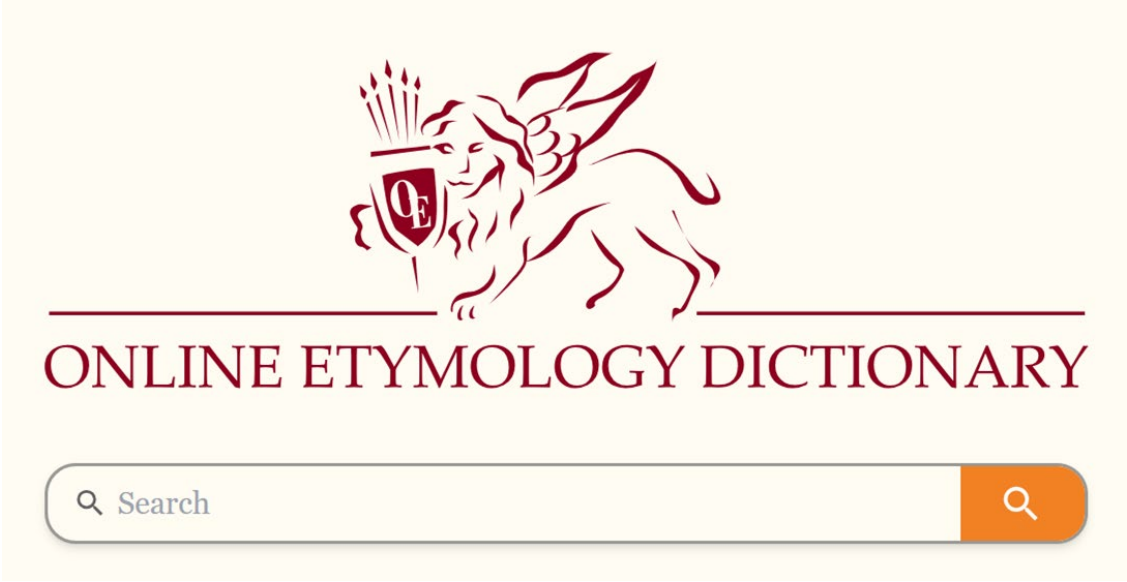
BREAKING WORDS INTO MEANINGFUL PARTS

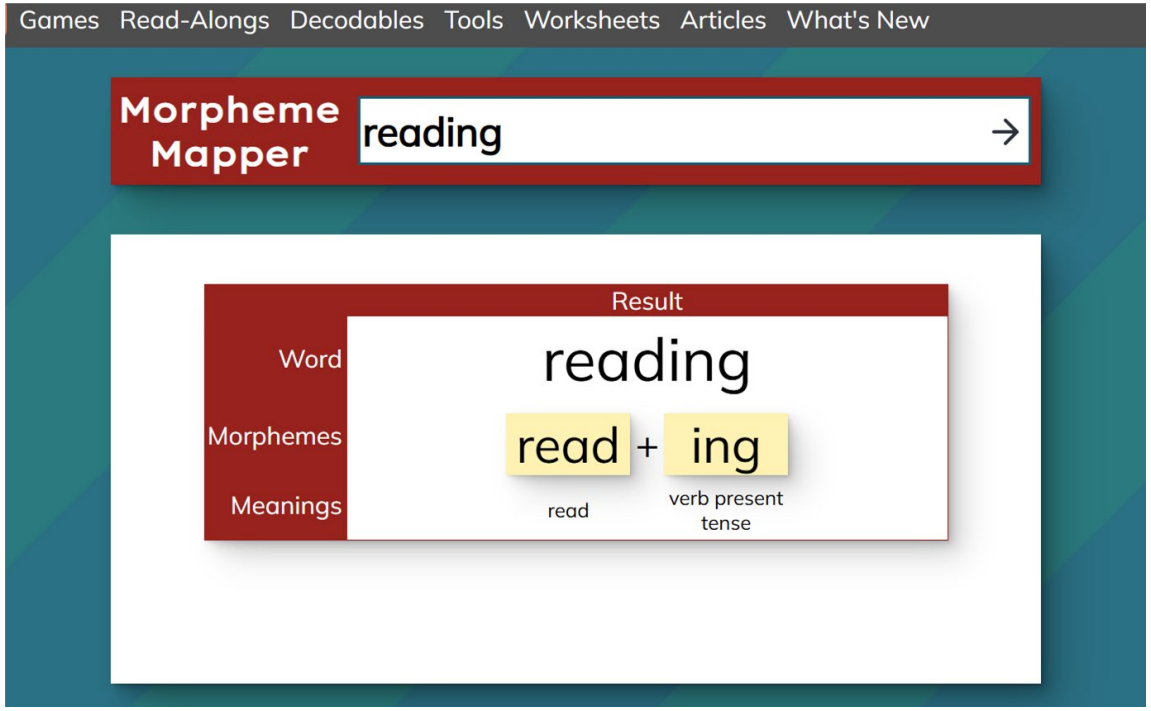
- Reading Complex Words
- Spelling Complex Words



YOUR NEW FAVORITE WEBSITES

- phonicsandstuff.com/morpheme-mapper
- etymonline.com/





MORPHOLOGY IN THE PRIMARY SETTING

My first thought….

My second thought….

MORPHOLOGY IN THE PRIMARY SETTING

- Consult your reading specialist for support and resources—they are highly knowledgeable and can provide valuable insight beyond what's commonly recognized.
- Don't overcomplicate it!
- YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AN EXPERT
  - You'll learn with your students, and it's okay to make mistakes

A REALISTIC WEEK

Monday
Introduce ed suffix
2:20

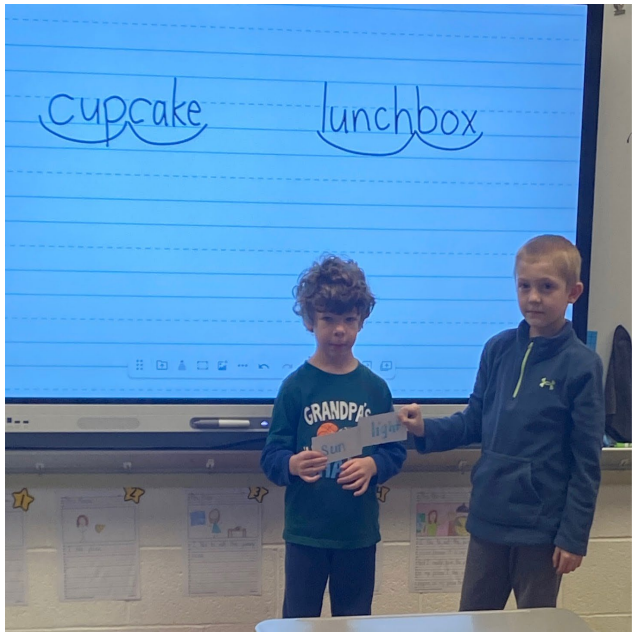
Tuesday
Daughter was sick, so no lesson today

Wednesday
14:25

Thursday
14:45
(includes cut & paste)

Friday
2:20

OTHER LOW PREP EXAMPLES IN THE CLASSROOM

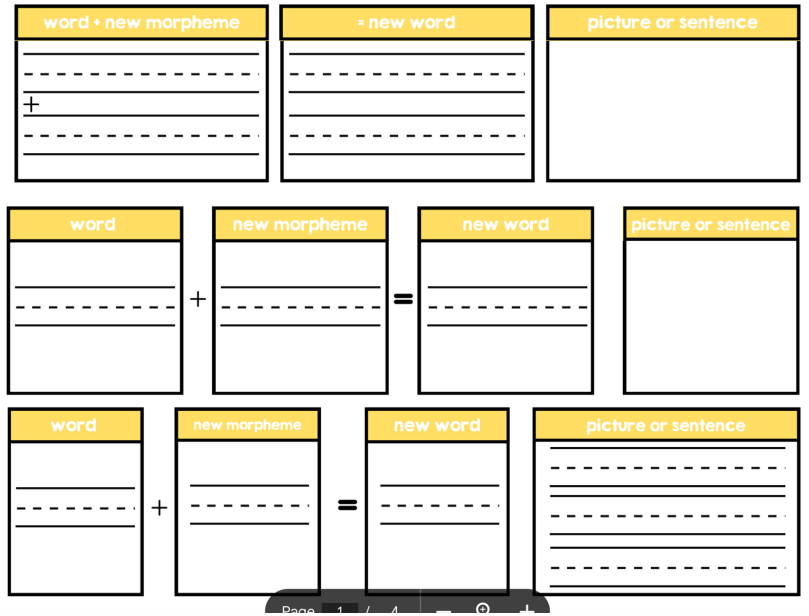


compound word match with flashcards

Other Strategies Used Throughout Districts:

- Morpheme of the Week
- Interactive Word Wall
- Morpheme Scavenger Hunts
- Spinner/Dice Games

Resources


word + new morpheme
= new word
picture or sentence
word
new morpheme
new word
picture or sentence
word
new morpheme
new word
picture or sentence

MORPHOLOGY IN MATHEMATICS

Is word meaning in a mathematics course practical or even necessary?

Create an **expres*sion*** that ***re*presents** the **quanti*ty*** of people in this room.

a statement of 2 or more numbers and the operation connecting them	to show again	the state of having a certain amount

THE CASE FOR MATHEMATICS MORPHOLOGY

An interesting paradox in mathematics is that one can know how to do something without understanding what the concept or process truly is. Since a definition tells us what something is, it makes sense to emphasize definitions as a core element of instruction. Defining key mathematical terms helps students build their understanding of important concepts (Molina, 2012).

Molina, C. (2012). *The problem with math is English: A language-focused approach to helping all students develop a deeper understanding of mathematics*. Jossey-Bass

MORPHOLOGY IN MATHEMATICS

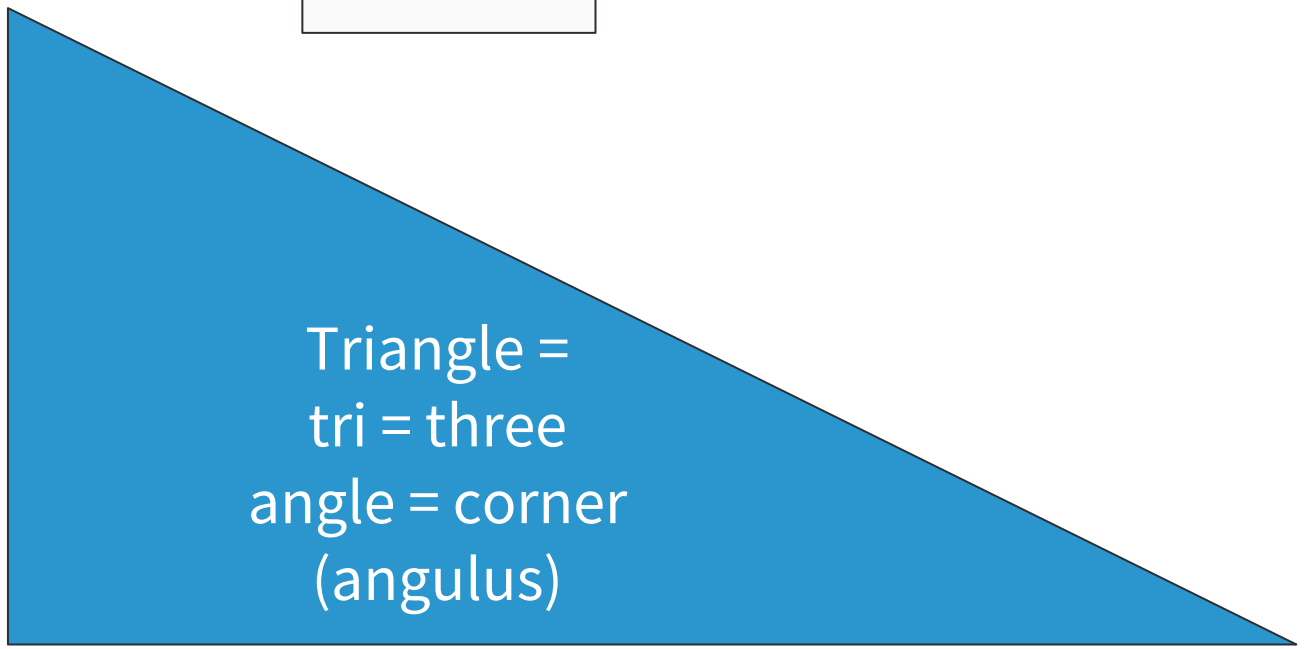
Class*ify* these two-**dimens**ional figures based on their **at***tributes*.

Make into **a certain group**

Measurement

To *assign*

Rectangle =
rectus = straight / right
angle = corner



POWERHOUSE MATH MORPHEMES

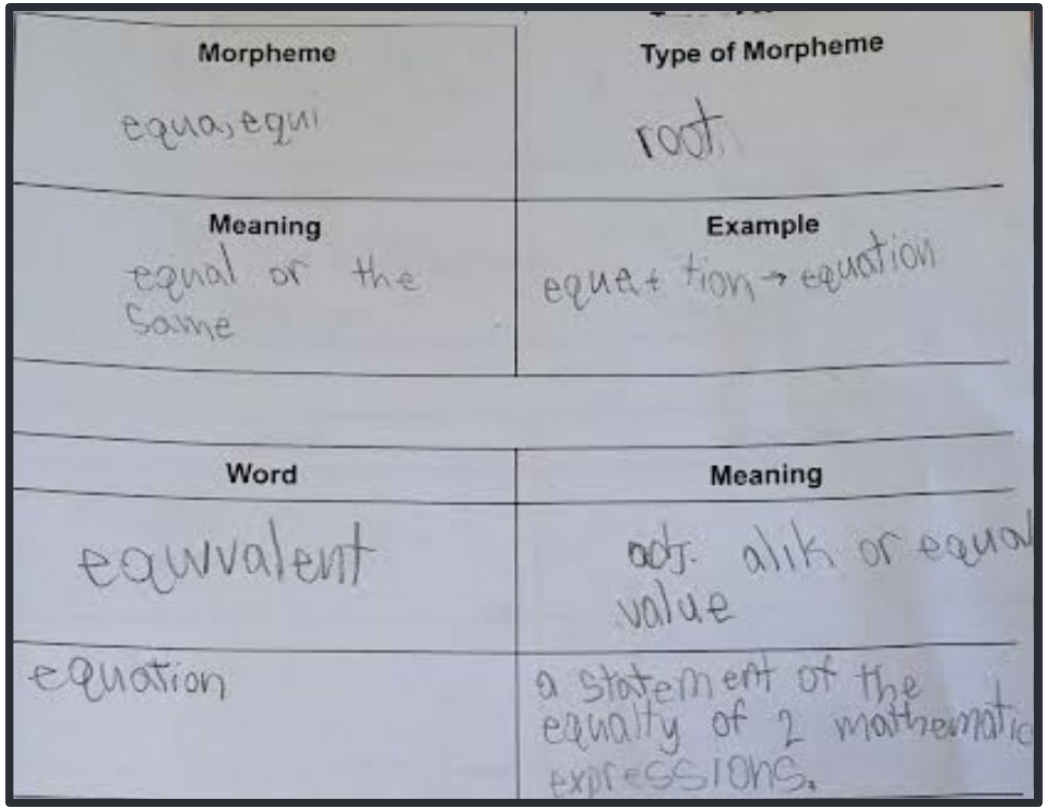
tion (the formation of nouns from verbs) = addi**tion,** subtrac**tion**, divi**sion**, multiplica**tion**, equa**tion**, expres**sion**, frac**tion**, calcula**tion**

re (to do again) **re**view, **re**present, **re**presentation, **re**duce, **re**calculate

ty (state of being) capaci**ty,** proper**ty**, quanti**ty**, majori**ty**, quali**ty**

equa(i) (the same) **equa**tion, **equil**ateral, **equi**distant, **equi**angular, **equi**librium

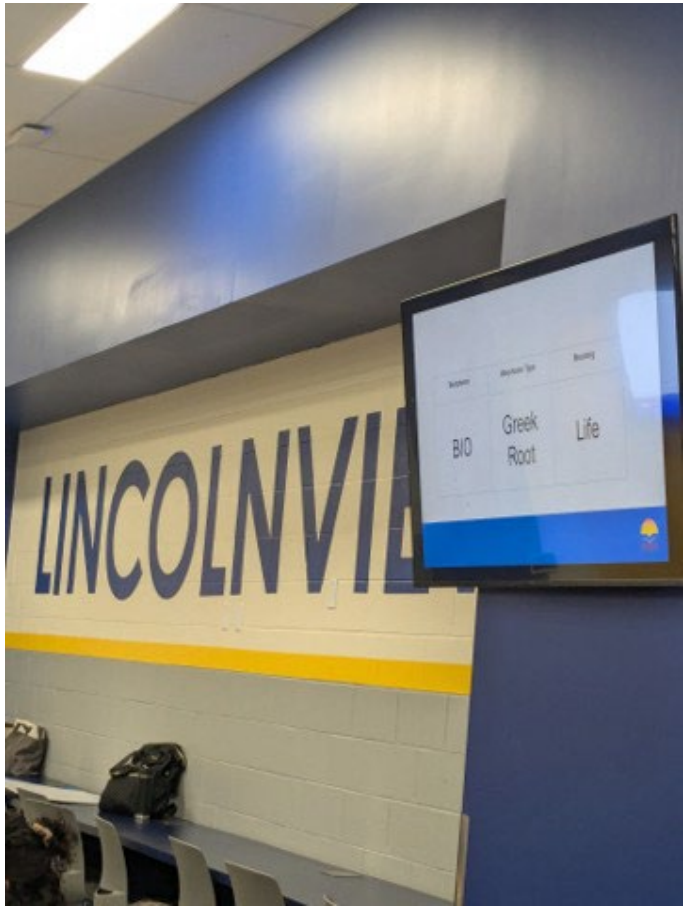
STUDENT WORK



Morpheme	Type of Morpheme
equa, equi	root
Meaning	**Example**
equal or the same	equat tion → equation

Word	Meaning
equivalent	adj. alik or equal value
equation	a statement of the equality of 2 mathematic expressions.

SCALING THE WORK



SCALING THE WORK

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11 general	11 CP	12 general	12 CP
2	Suffixes											
3	Plural S, -ES	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4	Past Tense -ED	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5	-ING	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6	-LY	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐
7	-ER, -OR	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
8	-ION, -TION	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐
9	-AL	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10	-Y	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐
11	-NESS	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐
12	-MENT	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐

	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11 general	11 CP	12 general	12 CP
Suffixes											
Plural S, -ES	EX: Bags, bakes, kids, hotdogs, umbrellas, storms, parents, crews, days, parties, candies, babies, boxes, mixes, dishes, glasses, messes										

QUESTIONS?

education.ohio.gov/LiteracyAcademy

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