

Build-A-Word Game



Purpose:

- Deepen understanding of morphological word families
- Practice building multi-syllabic words
- Use competition and collaboration as motivation

Materials:

- Markers
- Blank Paper or Whiteboard

Instructions:

Start with "Roll-a-Base" - this is a more advanced activity

1. Using two markers, decide which color will represent the base and which will represent the affixes (prefixes and suffixes).
2. Students brainstorm outloud different words they want to add to the board.
For example: David might call out "**recalling**". The student or the scribe will write this on the board or the paper using the different markers to show the base and affixes.
3. Once the board is filled or the time has expired (you can set a timer if this helps your student) you can count up the points!
4. Challenge your student to beat their high score every time!

Extension for those who are familiar with Structured Word Inquiry:

- Write out the words as word sum.
call + ing → callings

Points:

- 5 points - each prefix
- 5 points - each suffix
- 10 points - each base

Example:

recalling (re+call+ing=20 points)

players (This counts as two suffixes! er+s = 20 points)

Gallery of Bases:

Level 1 (Beginner):

play

plant

call

water

seed

garden

flower

grow

jump

move

help

Level 2 (Intermediate):

cycle

wonder

cover

try

do

fly

act

Level 3 (Advanced):

struct

script

scribe

sect

rupt

sign