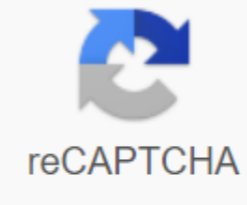




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Prefixes and suffixes games for 3rd graders

What do you do when images and contextual clues aren't enough to help a child understand the meaning of a word? I had to solve this particular problem in my 3rd-grade classroom this year. Most of my students were skilled readers. They could sound words that they didn't know very well... even the difficult multi-syllabic words that strewn our new third class string text. But I noticed that most of my students relied too much on context clues and images to help them understand the meaning of the new words they came across. They wanted to make their primary teachers proud! But our problem was most of our BIG third class text lacked images and context traces weren't always enough. We needed a different strategy and fast! So what is an Applicious teacher to do? Word studies, peeps! Word studies! One of our most extensive word studies was the use and understanding of prefixes. We started with 4 basic prefixes: Un-, Dis, Re-, Pre-And oh Man! What a powerful prefix device this turned out to be! To introduce the concept of prefixes, I used these handy reference posters... We discussed the idea of placements and how they could be added to basic words to change or change the meaning of a word. (I love myself some blanket chat in 3rd grade!) Throughout our prefix unit, we reviewed these handy posters! #teacherwin When the idea of prefixes was introduced we brainstormed words that had a prefix (any prefix!) Then we went a gallery. If you've never used a gallery walk, I highly suggest this technique to engage your students on a topic! They get kiddos up and move and put learning in their hands. Perfect for a foreboding set to get your kiddos brains thinking prefixes! Here's how we did ours: In advance, I had made an anchor poster for each of the prefixes we studied. Then I set them up around the room with a marker at each station. I gave the class 7 minutes to go around and write words they already knew that exemplified the given prefix. The only catch? They couldn't repeat a word that had already been written. Here's a look at our posters after the first day... The next day, I grouped my students into 4 groups and each group got a poster. Their new task was to review every word on the poster and confirm that it actually belonged on our exemplary poster for this prefix. They checked for spelling and also had to make sure it was a real word. We used Dictionary.com on Ipads to confirm our words. Kiddos crossed all words that didn't belong and ticked off the words that did. Such an engaging and exciting way to put learning in students' hands. My thirds loved being a teacher and checking each other's work. I love using Gallery Walks to different standards throughout the year. Read more about this amazing Here. We have also taken notes in our Response journals. This made it easy for us to refer to the rest of our unit! Like this activity? You can grab it and all the other printables I used by checking the device here in my TeachersPayTeachers store. Once we were starting to understand words with prefixes a little better, we started playing games! Games just make learning so much more fun! And they provide easy practice without the threat of a student getting it wrong and minimizing paperwork for the teacher! (You can read more about reducing your graduated paperwork work stack here!) Double bonus! Game Tip ***: To get more bang for our buck, we had first played the game as a whole group, then I would put it in a center for small group time for more practice. The first game we played was a whole group adaptation of Prefix Bingo. Think of it as the prefix similar to Capture the Square. To play, I divided the class into two groups. A red and a blue one. I showed a great Bingo board game with base words on the document camera. Then take turns, students grabbed a prefix bingo card. Using the prefix as their guide, they tried to match their prefix with a base on the board to make a word. We would run it through the ipad to confirm it's validity. (Love that third-class word!) If that was a real word, the team won the seat. Their goal was to get four words in a row to win. For the small group game, I printed the rest of the game boards out on fun cardboard and laminated them. The students played more in a Bingo style mode using colored counter chips to cover their base words if they were able to make a word. Of course, confirming that a word we created was actually a word is time consuming if you don't have a teacher involved to speed along the process, so I also included a reference page for students to check their words when a student had Bingo. Another game my kiddos loved to play was I have ... Who has prefix style. To keep it fast, I timed ourselves every time we played to see if we could beat our score! The last game we played as a class was Real or Cheat! Any teacher who has taught about prefixes (or anyone placing for that matter!) knows that when kids understand what they are, they want to spend them on everything! Problem? They don't always say right words. So to help with that we played a little word ID game. This is perfect for helping to check for understanding towards the end of your word study device as it requires a true understanding of the places and how they are used. To play, I gave each student 2 index cards. On the cards, they had to write a real word and a word that wanted to be real (an impostor!) using one of the prefixes un-, re-, pre-or dis-. Then I picked up all our cards. Then back down on the carpet we sat in a circle and walked cards for different students. In turn, we would read the maps and and if the word was Real or an imposter. and put it in different piles on the floor. The kids loved trying to fool each other with their words! Warning: giggles will occur! For small groups, I created word cards that they were able to sort. Grab that activity here! and a summative at the end of our study. Word Studies on prefix device Now, in addition to word studies of prefixes, we also made studies of suffixes and Greek and Latin root words. So much power in teaching students to understand the meaning of a word simply by understanding it's parts. You can grab all these prefix activities and so much more in my word study package: I've made it super easy to use by breaking it down into 3 main parts. I would love to hear what strategies you teach your students to help them understand the words they read! Be sure to share them below! My oldest (just completed 3rd grade) has been struggling to read longer words for some time now. He is the reason I designed this organizer to read longer words. And while we spent some time talking about prefixes and suffixes, we never camped on it for a very long time... until the end. I created a lot of hands-on activities to help him better read words with prefixes and suffixes in them, and today, I share it for free! * This post contains affiliate links. ** The free printable download can be found at the end of this post. Click the teal download button. Learn about prefixes and suffixes I used the appendix books Word Sort for Syllables and Defixes Spellers and Word Sorts for Derivational Relations Spellers from words their way of defining the words as well as choosing the most common prefixes and suffixes. While these supplements are intended to help children spell these words, at this point, I focused more on reading words with prefixes and suffixes. Nor did I intend to include all prefixes and suffixes; this was only an introduction to them. The more difficult placements will come later. Try these Word Building Dominoes for some hands-on placement learning! Here are most of the activities in action: The first resource isn't necessarily an activity, but a chart on one page that helps children remember their prefixes and suffixes by specifying them, sharing their definition, and setting an example of a picture and word. It was so much fun to create and I'm sure will be used as much as our Homophone Spelling Charts, Blends and Digraph Chart, and Vowel Chart. In the package are placing cards with their meanings and examples. I printed these on cardboard to make them harder to see through as well we more durable. First we matched them on our tabletop pocket chart at the prefix, meaning and one word example. After he understood and knew them well, we played a little memory match. The example of the prefix, the importance of the prefix, and had to be matched each time (3 matches). He hit me badly! {Note: There is one solid solid of the stripe pattern you can use to print the cards all over again and back as we did.) I didn't get around to taking pictures of the suffix matching, but there are cards for them as well in the package. They are red with strips, so the prefix and the suffix cards do not get confused. One of my favorite resources is Match-a pages. I got pictures of the Match-a Prefix, but there are matching activities for both prefixes and suffixes. Children cut apart at the bottom and add them to the words to see how many combinations of real words they can make. Once they have matched them, they spell the words on the recording sheet, which can be printed front and back. And my son's favorite activity from the pack was Chop that Log! He secretly wanted me to go with the title, Cut the Cheese and use some cheese clipart, but I said no. ☺ are logs for prefixes, suffixes, and words that contain both. Another variation is to laminate the logs and ask the children to draw the division with dry delete markers. This activity package was one of the last things he did as a 3rd president. Sniff, sniff. Where is the time going? He was super excited to finish the school year and it was such a fun way to do it. More resources you can enjoy: ~ Becky ~ Becky