

ENGLISH · GRADES 1–2

# Compound Words

Two words make one new word

## What is a compound word?

A compound word is two smaller words joined together to make a new one. For example: 'rain' + 'bow' = 'rainbow'. The new word usually has its own meaning. Compound words can sometimes be hyphenated (mother-in-law) or written as two words (ice cream), but most are written as one (sunlight).

## Match the two halves

1. rain + \_\_\_ = a colorful arc after rain
2. butter + \_\_\_ = a flying insect
3. fire + \_\_\_ = a person who fights fires
4. tooth + \_\_\_ = something you use to clean teeth
5. post + \_\_\_ = a card you send through the mail
6. sun + \_\_\_ = light from the sun
7. snow + \_\_\_ = a person made of snow
8. moon + \_\_\_ = the light of the moon



**Make your own**

Pick a word from each column and try to make a compound word. Are they real or invented? Words to try: blue, foot, side, base, up, over, under, head, hand, light, walk, ball, way, side, line, room, day, set, board.

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