

ENGLISH · GRADES 3–5

Prefixes and Suffixes

Add to the start or end of a word

Common prefixes (added to the START)

Prefix	Meaning	Example
un-	not	unhappy, unkind, unable
re-	again, back	redo, replay, return
pre-	before	preheat, prepare, preview
dis-	not, opposite	dislike, disappear
mis-	wrong	misunderstand, misuse
sub-	under	submarine, subway
super-	above, more	supermarket, superhero
bi-	two	bicycle, bilingual
tri-	three	triangle, tricycle

Common suffixes (added to the END)

Suffix	Meaning	Example
-ful	full of	joyful, careful, helpful
-less	without	fearless, useless, tireless
-ly	in a way	quickly, kindly, sadly
-er	more, person who	bigger, teacher, farmer



Suffix	Meaning	Example
-est	most	biggest, kindest
-ed	past tense	walked, jumped, played
-ing	happening now	running, singing
-tion	the act of	education, action
-ness	state of	kindness, happiness

