


# Year 2 Prefixes and Suffixes: A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

This step-by-step explanation to prefixes and suffixes can help you support your child's learning at home. The subject is broken down into manageable chunks, providing you with a simple guide to follow when exploring prefixes and suffixes together, either as part of homework or if you decide to give your child some extra support. Whether your child is only just beginning to explore what prefixes and suffixes are, or they are comfortable with their uses and want to find out more, you will find a step that matches where your child is at as well as some ideas for where to go next.

Within **this area of the website**, you will find a selection of resources intended to help your child learn about each step of this guide. Each step also contains a keyword or phrase that you can use to search the Twinkl site for more resources and activities, designed to support your child in achieving that stage. Simply type the keyword or phrase into the search bar and press enter to explore together.

We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. The contents of this resource are for general, informational purposes only. This guide is intended to offer parents general guidance on what subject areas tend to be covered in their child's year group and where they could support their children at home. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. There are some subject areas that we have intentionally not covered due to the nature of how they are taught or because a trained professional needs to teach these areas. We try to ensure that the information in our resources is correct but every school teaches the national curriculum in its own way. If you would like further guidance or are unsure in any way, we recommend that you speak to your child's teacher or another suitably qualified professional.

# Prefixes and Suffixes

## What Are Prefixes and Suffixes?

As your child's confidence in writing and spelling increases, they will begin to learn about prefixes and suffixes. A **prefix** is a letter or group of letters that is added to the beginning of a word which alters its meaning, for example:

rewritten    incorrect    unhappy

A **suffix** is a letter or group of letters that is added to the end of a word which alters its meaning and sometimes the spelling of the root word. Examples of suffixes include:

spiteful    illness    slowly

In year 2, your child will be taught how to form nouns using suffixes such as -ness and -er, for example kind**ness** and reader**er**. They will also learn how to form adjectives using suffixes such as -ful and -less, for example painful and harm**less**.

In addition, they will begin to form comparative adjectives (comparing differences between objects) and superlative adjectives (which describe extremes, such as tallest, smallest etc.) using the suffixes -er and -est. They will learn how to add -es to nouns and verbs ending in 'y' for example flies, tries and replies. Finally, year 2 children will start to explore adverbs by adding the suffix -ly to adjectives.

As well as using the resources in this category and the suggested keyword searches to help your child with prefixes and suffixes, a few ideas for games and activities to help your child learn how to use them, both in their spoken language and in their writing, are outlined below.

### Read, Read, Read!

When you are reading with your child, can you spot words with prefixes and suffixes and discuss their meanings? What are the root words and how does the prefix or suffix affect the meaning?

### Prefix Matching Game

Play this fantastic **bingo game** with your child to reinforce learning on the suffixes -ment, -less, -ful, -ness and -ly. Play by matching the suffix cards to the root word on the bingo board.

### Crossword

Help your child consolidate their suffix skills with this **crossword** containing '-ing' words. Discuss the meaning of each word with your child. How does adding -ing affect its meaning?

### Put out the Flames

Explore suffixes with this **Great Fire of London game**. Encourage your child to match the suffix buckets to the correct root word flame in order to put out the fire. Only one combination will put out all of the flames.

## Step 1

### What Are Prefixes and Suffixes?

In year 2, your child will continue to explore prefixes and suffixes, forming nouns using suffixes such as -ness and -er, adjectives using suffixes such as -ful and -less and creating comparative and superlative adjectives using the suffixes -er and -est. Take a look at this word mat to help your child recognise and use prefixes and suffixes to change the meaning of root words.



### Spelling Prefixes and Suffixes

Year 2 children are expected to learn various spelling rules regarding prefixes and suffixes. For example, the national curriculum requires six to seven-year-olds to be able to add the suffixes -ed, -er and -est to root words ending in -y, changing the 'y' to an 'i' when they do so, for example copy/copied or cry/cried. Twinkl has a variety of games, activities and word mats to help your child to learn and practise spelling words with prefixes and suffixes as required by the year 2 curriculum.

## Step 2



## Step 3

### Using Prefixes and Suffixes in Sentences

In year 2, children will continue to spend time exploring root words and how adding prefixes and suffixes such as -ful, -ness, -less and -er can change the meaning of these words. They will then practise using these suffixes and including them in words in sentences. These dictation passages can help your child to practise their spelling.

### Experimenting Further with Prefixes and Suffixes

Your child will start to collect together a wider variety of words using prefixes and suffixes. They can explore further with this -er, -ed and -ing spelling activity.

## Step 4



# Explore and Discover More

Twinkl Go! is a digital platform, hosting interactive content such as videos, games, audiobooks and more. Twinkl Go! enables digital content to be streamed to your computer or mobile device.



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Book Club

Twinkl Book Club is our book subscription service. Enjoy our original works of fiction in beautiful printed form, delivered to you each half-term and yours to keep!

Twinkl Boost is a range of intervention resources, created to support and lift learning with children at every level. These include our easy-to-use SATs and Phonics Screening resources.



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Imagine resources are designed to help your children to think creatively, question and imagine. Every week, a new topic consisting of five photos, each with related activities, is created.

Twinkl Originals are engaging stories written to inspire pupils from EYFS to KS2. Designed to encourage a love of reading and help curriculum-wide learning through accompanying resources.



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KIDS' TV

Twinkl Kids' TV is our wonderful YouTube channel dedicated to fun and informative video-style resources full of new and creative activities you can try at home!