Changing the meanings of words

Parent Corner

Today in *Active learning@Home* we will focus on how prefixes (letters we add to the beginning of a word) and suffixes (letters we add to the end of words) can change the meaning of a word. In maths, your child will learn how shapes can look different from one another just by changing them a little bit.

Make time during the day to play the ‘treasure hunt’ game.

Book of the day


It explains complicated issues in an easy way and also provides important information to children on how to protect themselves.


Learning together is **FUN**

Do the following activities with your child. They are linked to the work that he or she is already doing in class. In this way you help him or her to stay up to date with his or her learning.

Prefixes and suffixes

Prefixes are letters added to the beginning of a word (we also call this the root word) to change its meaning.

For example, if we add the letters ‘de-’ to the beginning of the word ‘frost’, a new word, *defrost*, is formed.

Suffixes are letters added to end of a main word (we also call this the root word) to change its meaning.

For example, if we add the letters ‘-ship’ to the end of the word ‘owner’, a new word, *ownership*, is formed.

Ask your child to write down these words and explain what each word means:

- Play
- Spoon
- Joy

Next ask him or her to add the suffix ‘-ful’ at the end of each word. For each word ask your child to explain how the new meaning differs from the original meaning.

Ask him or her to write five other words that end with the suffix ‘-ful’.

**root word**

| cheer |

**suffix**

| ful |

Changing shapes

Shapes are all around us. Explain to your child that sometimes, the same shape can look different and mean something different if we just turn (rotate) it a little bit.

Look at the example below of the square that becomes a diamond. It looks different but still has its original features (all 4 sides are the same length). This is called *transforming* a shape.

- We can slide the shape up or down, left or right.
- We can slide the shape up or down, left or right.
- The arrow below was flipped to form a mirror image.

Let your child cut out 6 different shapes out of old cardboard (for example old containers) and see in how many ways he or she can transform these shapes. He or she must keep count for each shape that is changed.

Online Resources

*FREE online applications (Apps) recognised by the Department of Basic Education (linked to the curriculum) are available.*

2Enable register here: [https://www.2enable.org/](https://www.2enable.org/)

Also visit the DBE’s Cloud at: [https://dbcloud.org.za](https://dbcloud.org.za)

Play today

**TREASURE HUNT.** It is important to keep your children’s minds active in order to develop their thinking skills.

First, plan where you will hide the treasures (in the house or outside). You will need to write a clue that will give your child just enough information to search for the treasure. For example, if you hide a ‘treasure’ under the bed, the clue may be ‘something you sleep on’. Hide about 5 treasures, each with its own clue. Write the clues on a piece of paper and give to your child. The treasures can be anything from a special note, to a healthy snack like an apple.

If they have found all the treasures, their reward is that they can choose who will wash the dishes that evening.

Healthy Habits

- Cough and sneeze into your elbow please

Remember to keep it **PLAYFUL** and **FUN**. That is how children learn.

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