

# Powerful Endings

**Purpose:** Students will practice adding common suffixes to root words.

**Materials:** index cards, chalkboard/whiteboard, paper, pencils

**Pre-Activity Preparation:** Prepare game cards by making 12 index cards with suffixes (6 suffixes 2 times each) and 36 root word cards (18 root words 2 times each). Suggested suffix cards: [-less] [-ing] [-est] [-er] [-ed] [-ful]. Suggested root word cards: [teach] [care] [small] [pull] [talk] [joy] [hope] [walk] [sing] [paint] [pain] [slow] [play] [quick] [color] [thank] [bright].

**Activity:**

1. Tell students they are going to learn how to use powerful letters called suffixes that are added to the end of words to change meanings. Write the word *pain* on the board. Tell students you can make the word *pain* disappear without erasing any letters. Add “-less” to the end of *pain*. Explain that now the word says *painless* and means *without any pain*.
2. On the board, write six suffixes and example words that demonstrate how each suffix changes meaning (e.g., [-ful] *hopeful* means “full of hope”). Tell students that they are going to play a game with the suffixes from the board.
3. Divide the class into four teams and give each team a facedown deck of nine root word cards. Draw a card from your suffix deck and ask the teams to draw the top card off their decks. Ask teams to raise their hands if they can combine their root word card with your suffix card to make a word and use it in a sentence. If the sentence makes sense, they get to discard the card. Keep playing until all teams have discarded all cards.
4. At the end of the game, ask each student to make a list on a piece of paper of all of the words they remember from the game.

*You can record an individual student's understanding of this activity by checking the appropriate column for level of mastery and noting the date on which the activity took place.*

Student's Name	Developed ***	Developing **	Minimal *	Date

- \*\*\* Student can form words with suffixes and use in sentences.
- \*\* Student can form words with suffixes.
- \* Student cannot add suffixes.