

# Memory Master

## Purpose

Students will learn to spell roots, prefixes, and suffixes correctly.

## Materials

*For the teacher:* chalk; chalkboard; lists of words grouped by prefix, suffix, and root

*For the students:* paper, pencil

## Activity

### A. Pre-Activity Discussion

Tell students that they will be playing a simple game called *Memory Master*.

### B. Play the Game

1. Write a list of words starting with the same prefix or ending with the same suffix on the chalkboard. Identify the theme of your word list for your students.
2. Give students several minutes to study the words without writing them down.
3. Erase the words and have students write them from memory on their papers.
4. Have students think of extra words that belong in the list of words and write them down with the others.
5. Repeat the process with a list of words that all contain the same root.
6. Alternate types of words until you have played a set of five rounds.

### C. Closing the Activity

1. Write your lists on the chalkboard and have students correct their spelling.
2. Have students give themselves a point for each word that they spelled correctly and a point for each extra word.
3. Ask students if they understand the meanings of the words they wrote. Define unfamiliar words for them.
4. Collect papers and play this game at regular intervals to improve students' spelling and vocabulary.

EXTENDING  
THE



**ACTIVITY**

Challenge students to make sentences with several words from the vocabulary lists that you used for the game.

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### Science

Have students use Latin root word lists to figure out the genus names of animals they have studied. Have them learn how to spell the Latin names of their favorite animals.


**Standards Link**  
**4.1.4**


## Questions for Review


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### Basic Concepts


When students have finished playing the game, assess their knowledge by asking the following questions:

 Can you think of a word beginning with the root  
[*insert word root*]?

 Can you spell [*insert vocabulary word*]?

 What is a prefix?

 What is a suffix?

 What is a word root?

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