

Summer Reading Activities



	Third Grade – Activity #7																																			
Title	Root Words																																			
Parent Information	Many words in the English language come from Greek or Latin origins. As students become proficient with reading, they begin to recognize common “roots” or word parts which supports automaticity with fluency. Understanding the meaning of the roots also helps build vocabulary knowledge and reading comprehension. Children can apply knowledge of a root to many different words such as the root “tri” which means three. The words tricycle, triple, and trio all use the same root and have meanings based around the number 3.																																			
Objective	Make connections between common roots and build vocabulary																																			
Time	5 - 10 minutes																																			
Materials	Paper, pencil, common Latin, or Greek Roots Common Latin Roots <table><tr><td>aud</td><td>circ</td><td>dict</td><td>ject</td></tr><tr><td>jud</td><td>manu</td><td>pac</td><td>port</td></tr><tr><td>rupt</td><td>scrib</td><td>spect</td><td>struct</td></tr><tr><td>tract</td><td>vis</td><td>voc</td><td></td></tr></table> Common Greek Roots <table><tr><td>auto</td><td>aqu</td><td>bio</td><td>chrono</td></tr><tr><td>geo</td><td>graph</td><td>hydro</td><td>meter</td></tr><tr><td>ology</td><td>photo</td><td>scope</td><td>tele</td></tr><tr><td>therm</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>				aud	circ	dict	ject	jud	manu	pac	port	rupt	scrib	spect	struct	tract	vis	voc		auto	aqu	bio	chrono	geo	graph	hydro	meter	ology	photo	scope	tele	therm			
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Procedures	Root Word Tree • Sketch a simple tree with a trunk and extending branches. • Choose a root word and add it to the roots or bottom of the tree. (ex. rupt). • Discuss the meaning of the word part (ex. rupt – means “to break”). • Brainstorm words that are related to the root and write them on the branches of the tree (ex. rupture, eruption, interrupt, disrupt, corrupt, etc.). • Use a dictionary or an additional resource to look for correct spellings and definitions of unfamiliar words.																																			

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	- Choose one or two of the words to write sentences that demonstrate an understanding of the new word(s) (ex. It is not polite to <i>interrupt</i> someone while they are speaking.) - Extend the activity by having your child identify any affixes (prefix or suffix) that are used to create the new words (ex. dis/rupt) or think of an affix that could be added to create additional words (ex. interrupting, disruption, etc.) rupt
Additional Resources and Information	Visit Reading Rockets: Root Words, Roots and Affixes Visit Scholastic: Vocabulary Boosters Word Trees or webs can also be used to practice finding synonyms (words with similar meanings – happy/cheerful) or antonyms (words with opposite meanings – happy/sad) to build vocabulary.