

Summer Reading Activities



	Fifth Grade – Activity #7			
Title	Root Words			
Parent Information	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>			
Objective	Make connections between common roots and build vocabulary			
Time	5 - 10 minutes			
Materials	Paper, pencil, common Latin, or Greek Roots			
	Common Latin Roots			
	aud	circ	dict	ject
	jud	manu	pac	port
	rupt	scrib	spect	struct
	tract	vis	voc	
	Common Greek Roots			
	auto	aqu	bio	chrono
	geo	graph	hydro	meter
	ology	photo	scope	tele
therm				
Procedures	<p>Root Word Tree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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. vis).• Discuss the meaning of the word part (ex. <i>vis</i> – means “to see”).• Brainstorm words that are related to the root and write them on the branches of the tree (ex. vision, visit, revise, advise, division, television, etc.).• Use a dictionary or an additional resource to look for correct spellings and definitions of unfamiliar words.			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choose one or two of the words to write sentences that demonstrate an understanding of the new word(s) (ex. The lawyer tried to <i>advise</i> her client to tell the truth.) Extend the activity by having your child identify any affixes (prefix or suffix) that are used to create the new words (ex. re/vise) or think of an affix that could be added to create additional words (ex. visiting, revisit, advised, adviser, etc.) <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>vis</p> </div>
Additional Resources and Information	<p>Visit Reading Rockets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Root Words, Roots and Affixes <p>Visit Scholastic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vocabulary Boosters <p>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.</p>