

Lesson Plan

Prefix Practice

Book: *Unicorns*

Series: Mythical Creatures

Level: Beacon

Objective

To help students practice identifying and comparing prefixes.

Supplies

- *Unicorns* book
- Prefix Practice Word List (attached)
- Hat or bowl
- Whiteboard
- Timer

Before the Activity

Print the Prefix Practice Word List and cut it apart so each word is on a separate slip of paper. Place all the slips in a hat or bowl.

Activity

Read through the *Unicorns* book with students, or assign it to them to read on their own. Explain that the word *unicorn* comes from two Latin words. The word *uni* means “one,” and the word *cornu* means “horn.” Together, these two parts give the word *unicorn* its meaning. The first part (“uni-”) is a prefix. A prefix is a letter or group of letters that can be added to the front of a word. The prefix changes the meaning of the base word, or root word. Many words use the same prefix. For example, the words *unicycle*, *uniform*, and *unison* also use the prefix “uni-.” As a result, these words all share similar meanings. A unicycle has one wheel, a uniform is one outfit that is worn by many people, and unison means “all at once.”

The English language has many common prefixes. Write the following list on the whiteboard:

- inter-
- re-
- over-
- dis-
- hyper-
- im-
- pre-

- un-
- micro-
- tele-
- trans-
- in-
- de-
- mis-

To help students practice identifying prefixes, play the following game. Have each student draw a word from the hat or bowl. When you say “Go,” you will start the timer. As quickly as possible, all students should stand up and try to find another student whose word has the same prefix. Students with matching prefixes should link arms. Once all students have paired up, stop the timer and record the time. Have students in each pair read their words out loud to the class.

Then play the game again. This time, students should try to find another student who has the same root word as their word. Once students have found each other and linked arms, stop the timer and have students in each pair read their words out loud to the class.

Evaluation

Use the attached answer key to check students’ answers after each round.

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards’ language standards, grade 2 (L 2.4).

Prefix Practice Word List

interconnected	intercontinental
reload	revision
overdo	overused
disability	disconnected
hyperactive	hypermobile
immobile	immature
premature	preselect
unload	undo
micromanage	microscope
telescope	television
transport	transcontinental
inactive	inability
deport	deselect
mismanage	misused

Prefix Practice Answer Key

Round 1 Answers

de: deport / deselect

inter: interconnected / intercontinental

re: reload / revision

dis: disability / disconnected

hyper: hyperactive / hypermobile

im: immobile / immature

in: inactive / inability

micro: micromanage / microscope

mis: mismanage / misused

over: overdo / overused

pre: premature / preselect

tele: telescope / television

trans: transport / transcontinental

un: unload / undo

Round 2 Answers

ability: disability / inability

active: hyperactive / inactive

connected: disconnected / interconnected

continental: intercontinental / transcontinental

do: overdo / undo

manage: micromanage / mismanage

mature: immature / premature

mobile: hypermobile / immobile

port: deport / transport

scope: microscope / telescope

select: deselect / preselect

load: reload / unload

used: misused / overused

vision: revision / television