

# Base Words and Inflectional Endings

## Directions

1. Review inflectional endings using the table below. An inflectional ending is a word part that is added to the end of a base word that changes the number or tense of a base word. A base word can stand alone and has meaning (for example, cat, bench, eat, walk). Inflectional endings include **-s**, **-es**, **-ing**, **-ed**.
  - The inflectional endings **-s** and **-es** change a noun from singular (one) to plural (more than one): cat/cats, bench/benches.
  - The inflectional endings **-ing** and **-ed** change the tense of a verb: eat/eating, walk/walked.

| Inflectional Ending | Use  | Example  |
|---------------------|--|--|
| <b>-s</b>           | To make a word plural (more than one).   | cats, letters, fingers   |
| <b>-es</b>          | To make a word plural when the word ends in ch, sh, ss, or x.  | benches, dishes, classes, boxes  |
| <b>-ing</b>         | To say something that is currently happening.<br>NOTE: If the word ends in silent e, drop the e and add -ing. Give changes to giving. The e was dropped and then -ing was added. | I am <b>eating</b> lunch.<br>She is <b>drawing</b> .<br>We are <b>raking</b> the leaves.<br>He is <b>baking</b> cookies. |
| <b>-ed</b>          | To make a word past tense (say something that already happened).   | She <b>closed</b> the door.<br>He <b>walked</b> to the store.  |

2. Cut out the word cards, shuffle, and place face down in a stack.
3. Provide your child with the activity sheet.
4. Ask your child to select a word card from the stack and read the word. Help your child blend the sounds together if needed.
5. Ask your child to:
  - Write the word in the Word column of the activity sheet.

| Word           |
|----------------|
| <u>benches</u> |

- Draw a line between the base word and the inflectional ending.

| Word             |
|------------------|
| <u>bench</u> /es |

- Write the base word in the base word column and the inflectional ending in the inflectional ending column.

| Base Word      | Inflectional Ending |
|----------------|---------------------|
| = <u>bench</u> | + <u>es</u>         |

- Use the word in a sentence or you can provide a sentence for each word.
- Discuss the meaning of any unknown words.

## Key

| Word        | Base Word | Inflectional Ending |
|-------------|-----------|---------------------|
| shirt/s     | shirt     | s                   |
| peach/es    | peach     | es                  |
| protect/ing | protect   | ing                 |
| stack/ed    | stack     | ed                  |
| connect/ing | connect   | ing                 |
| paint/s     | paint     | s                   |
| want/ed     | want      | ed                  |
| dress/es    | dress     | es                  |
| counter/s   | counter   | s                   |
| appear/ing  | appear    | ing                 |
| fox/es      | fox       | es                  |
| reflect/ed  | reflect   | ed                  |



word cards



**shirts**

**peaches**

**protecting**

**stacked**

**connecting**

**paints**

**wanted**

**dresses**

**counters**

**appearing**

**foxes**

**reflected**