

# 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 <b>ch</b> , <b>sh</b> , <b>ss</b> , or <b>x</b> .	benches, dishes, classes, boxes
<b>-ing</b>	To say something that is currently happening. NOTE: If the word ends in silent <b>e</b> , drop the <b>e</b> and add <b>-ing</b> . Give changes to giving. The e was dropped and then -ing was added.	I am <b>eating</b> lunch. She is <b>drawing</b> . We are <b>raking</b> the leaves. 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. 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**