

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
-s	To make a word plural (more than one).	cats, letters, fingers
-es	To make a word plural when the word ends in ch , sh , ss , or x .	benches, dishes, classes, boxes
-ing	To say something that is currently happening. 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 eating lunch. She is drawing . We are raking the leaves. He is baking cookies.
-ed	To make a word past tense (say something that already happened).	She closed the door. He walked 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