

Helping your Child Read– it's not just about sounding out letters!

When you help your child think and learn about morphemes, you will be helping them to improve their reading skills.

Let's look at spelling the word *hopped*. To a beginner speller it might come out as *hopt*. Once your child learns that past tense is created by adding the morpheme **ed** to a word, he will have another spelling tool to use...

When practicing spelling and reading at home, teach morpheme rules to help you out!

Morphemes are word parts that carry meaning. Prefixes and Suffixes are added to the beginning or ends of words to change meaning.

Examples of Common prefixes:

Un (not, opposite of) e.g. **undone**

Re (again) e.g. **rewrite**

En (cause to) e.g. **enrage**

Over (too much) e.g. **overeat**

Example of Common Suffixes

S, es, (plural) e.g. books

Ed (past-tense verbs) e.g. walked

Ing (verb form) e.g. walking

Er (person connected to) e.g. teacher

Help your child understand by working prefixes and suffixes into your everyday routine:

Tommy, your shoes are **undone**. **Un** means not so I'm saying your shoes are not done up!

Sally, if you want more than one cookie, you have to add an **s**—may I have cookies?

Tommy, you will have to **rewrite** that homework. **Re** means do again so I'm saying you need to write that again.

Sally, if someone who teaches is a teacher**er**, what do we call someone who bakes? A baker**er**!



You can find some fun videos on **YouTube** to help explain prefixes and suffixes by searching those words.

Make up a flip book with prefixes and suffixes and have fun making real and silly words. Untall? What do you think that would mean?