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What is Word Building

Unlocking Language: The Power of Word Building

DEFINITION

Word building is the process of creating new words by combining letters and sounds. It helps kids improve their spelling and vocabulary skills.

KEY CONCEPTS

Phonemes

Phonemes are the smallest sounds in a word that can change its meaning.

Syllables

Syllables are the beats in a word, helping to break it down for easier pronunciation.

Prefixes

Prefixes are letters added to the beginning of a word that change its meaning.

Suffixes

Suffixes are letters added to the end of a word that can alter its form or meaning.

Root Words

Root words are the base parts of a word that carry its main meaning.

EXAMPLES

- unhappy = un + happy
- playful = play + ful
- rebuild = re + build

MEMORY TIPS

- ★ Remember 'un-' means not, like in 'unhappy'.
- ★ Think of 'play' as a root word for playful activities.
- ★ Use the 'syllable clap' method to break down longer words.

COMMON MISTAKES

- ✗ Forgetting to include prefixes or suffixes.
- ✗ Confusing similar-sounding phonemes.
- ✗ Not recognizing root words in complex terms.

QUICK RECAP

Word building involves creating new words by using phonemes, syllables, prefixes, and suffixes. Understanding these elements enhances spelling and vocabulary skills, making reading and writing easier.