Spelling Makes Sense Handout Katie Squires, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, BCS-CL Katie.Squires@cmich.edu

Recommended books:

Teaching How the Written Word Works by Pete Bowers Beneath the Surface of Words by Sue Hegland Backpocket Words: Sharing the Essence of English Spelling by Gail Venable



Now that we see the structure, we can understand the spelling of "does"

- Re + do + ing -> redoing
- do + ing -> doing
- do + ne -> done
- do + es-> does
- Re + do + ne -> redone
- Re + do + es -> redoes

Structured Word Inquiry

- 1. What is the sense and meaning of your word?
- 2. How is it built? Can you identify any bases or affixes with a word sum?
- 3. What related words can you find?
 Morphological relatives: Look for words
 - Morphological relatives: Look for words that share a base
 - Etymological relatives: Look for words that share a historical root (not necessarily a base)
- 4. What graphemes function coherently here? Check that they represent the phonemes
 - across the morphological family.Check the influence of word origin on grapheme choice.
 - Note any phonological and nonphonological functions of the graphemes in your word.
 - (Bowers, 2019)



Terminology:

Base: central kernel of meaning within a word. Bases do not have a pronunciation until they are in a word. Bases can be free, bound, or twin.

Root: Historical meaning and spelling of a word.

Graphemes: written representation of phonemes

Phonemes: smallest unit of speech

Morphemes: smallest unit of meaning

Orthographic markers: a letter of letter sequence that is not a grapheme

Connecting vowel letters: morphemic elements that help the pronunciation flow

con ex	Cave "hollow"	ate	ed ing or s	
			ion	s
		ern	ous s	
		ity	ies	
		man men		

How many words can you make?

How do they link to the meaning of "hollow"?

Discovering the multiple linguistic influences on spelling & the impact on reading comprehension



Kirby & Bowers, 2017 Building on Perfetti's (2007) Lexical Quality Hypothesis

Further Reading

Bowers, J.S., & Bowers, P.N. (2017). Beyond phonics: The case for teaching children the logic of the English spelling system. *Educational Psychologist*, *2*, 124-141.

Bowers, P.N., Kirby, J.R., & Deacon, S.H. (2010). Effects of morphological instruction on vocabulary acquisition. *Reading and Writing: An Interdisciplinary Journal, 23, (5)*, 515-537. Haight, C.M. (2022). Sounds, syllables, and spellings: The case for a morphophonemic approach to word learning. *The Reading Professor, 45 (1)*, Article 5.

Hastings, K. & Trexler, M. (2021). Structured word inquiry: A critical literacy framework. *Nature*. Kirby, J.R. & Bowers, P.N. (2017). Morphological instruction and literacy: Binding phonological, orthographic, and semantic features of words. In *Theories of Reading Development*. Edited by K. Cain, D. Compton, & R. Parrila. John Benjamins Publishing Company.

Murphy, K.A. & Diehm, E.A. (2020). Collecting words: A clinical example of a morphology-focused orthographic intervention. *LSHSS*, *51*, 544-560.

Our Spelling Tools:

To find word's history: https://www.etymonline.com/

Matrix Builder: http://www.neilramsden.co.uk /spelling/matrix/

To find possibly related words: <u>http://www.neilramsden.co.uk</u> /spelling/searcher/index.html