

LESSON

Spelling Word Endings

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ECOSYSTEMS



★ An **affix** is a word part that can be added to a base word. We add endings to change the tense of a verb, form plurals, make nouns and verbs agree, and make comparisons.

stem—stems grow—growing grow—grown

root—rooted deep—deeper lovely—loveliest

When adding an affix, you sometimes change the spelling of the base word. When adding an affix that begins with a vowel to a base word that ends with silent e, drop the e.

live - living

For base words ending with a consonant and y, change the y to i.

pretty — prettiest

For base words ending in a short vowel and a consonant, double the consonant.

swim — swimming

A Write the correct form of the word to complete each sentence.

1. **know** Forests of mangrove trees form what is _____ as the mangroves.
2. **form** Mangroves have always _____ on swampy coastlines.
3. **grow** A root _____ in the air, not in the ground.
4. **find** The root eventually _____ its way into the mud.
5. **build** Then soil starts _____ up around it.
6. **produce** The trees begin _____ a bright red berry.



Suffixes are word endings that add meaning to words.

The suffixes *-ion*, *-ence*, and *-ance*, change a verb into a noun. They make the word refer to a “condition” or “action.”

assist—assistance

The suffixes *-ful*, *-y*, *-ous*, and *-ious*, mean “having” or “full of.” They change a noun into an adjective.

caution—cautious



Change the words as directed to complete the puzzle.

ACROSS

- 3. Make the verb *educate* a noun.
- 7. Make the verb *excel* a noun.
- 9. Make an adjective meaning “full of care.”
- 10. Make the noun *clump* an adjective.

DOWN

- 1. Make the verb *act* a noun.
- 2. Make an adjective meaning “having joy.”
- 4. Make the verb *differ* a noun.
- 5. Make the verb *tense* a noun.
- 6. Make the verb *appear* a noun.
- 8. Make the noun *crust* an adjective.

