

Parent Guide to the Standards

# Using root words to understand meanings

## Today's Standard

3.L.4c - Use a known root word as a clue to the meaning of an unknown word with the same root (e.g., company, companion).

#### Real-World Applications for this Standard

Identifying the meaning of 'unhappy' using the root word 'happy'; Understanding 'preview' by recognizing 'view'; Decoding 'teacher' by knowing 'teach'; Inferring 'replay' from 'play'; Recognizing 'comfortable' from 'comfort'

#### Today I Learned

Today we learned how to use root words to understand the meanings of new words. For example, if you know 'happy,' you can figure out 'unhappy.'

## **Common Stumbling Blocks**

Some kids think that any word with a known root has the same meaning, which isn't always true. Others think prefixes and suffixes don't change the meaning, but they do.

# Quiz Me

- What is a root word?
- What does a prefix do?
- What does a suffix do?
- Can a root word help you understand a new word?
- Give an example of a word with a root you know.

# Help Me

Using root words helps us understand new words. For example, if you know 'play,' you can figure out 'replay' means to play again. This helps us read better and learn new words faster.