



What do plants have to do with reading? **Roots!** In both plants and reading, everything grows from roots. Learn these roots and watch your vocabulary grow.

**Directions:** Match each word on a leaf to the root from which it grew. Write the letter of the root on the leaf.

— century

— manufacture

— democracy

— fortify

— terrarium

— relocate

— aquatics

— telegram

— autograph

— incredible

— predict

— liberty

**ROOT WORDS**

- |                           |                      |                  |
|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| A. dict—say; speak        | E. gram—draw; write  | I. cred—believe  |
| B. auto—self              | F. loc—place         | J. cent—hundred  |
| C. dem—people; population | G. terra—earth; land | K. aqua—water    |
| D. fort—strong            | H. man—hand          | L. liber—to free |

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:**

Read each list of words. Think about how they are alike. Then circle the correct meaning of their common root word.

1. transport, import, export, portable

The root "port" most likely means      a. carry      b. ship      c. across

2. diameter, metric, speedometer, centimeter

The root "meter" most likely means      a. distance      b. machine      c. measure

3. audience, audition, audible, auditory

The root "aud" most likely means      a. speed      b. hear      c. people

4. construction, instruct, destruct, structure

The root "struct" most likely means      a. build      b. destroy      c. stop

5. circus, circle, circular, circumstances

The root "circ" most likely means      a. fun      b. around      c. five

6. proceed, exceed, succeed, concede

The root "cede or ceed" most likely means      a. go, yield      b. fail      c. obvious

7. signature, signal, sign, significant

The root "sign" most likely means      a. name      b. mark      c. visible

8. minor, minute, miniature, minimum

The root "min" most likely means      a. most      b. less      c. small

9. thermos, thermometer, thermal, thermostat

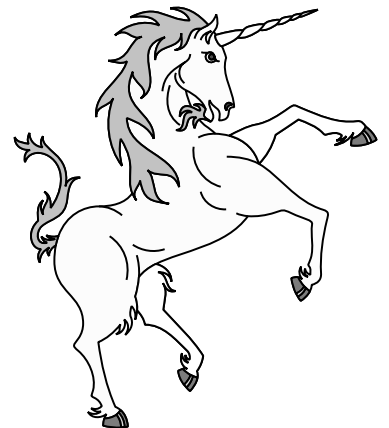
The root "therm" most likely means      a. bacteria      b. enclosed      c. heat

10. solitary, solo, solely, solitude

The root "sol" most likely means      a. alone      b. free      c. near

11. unicorn, uniform, unit, united

The root "uni" most likely means      a. one      b. kind      c. form



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

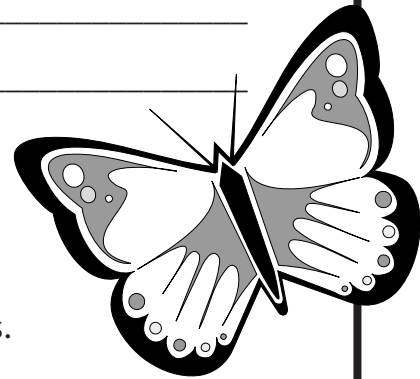
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How do you grow new words? One way is to start with a sprout of a root word, then add a prefix.

**Directions:** Add the prefix given to the root word. Then, in the sentences below, fill in the correct word from the ones you wrote.

<u>Prefix</u>	<u>Root Word</u>	<u>New Word</u>
dis-opposite of	appear	_____
re-again	write	_____
mis-wrongly	understood	_____
multi-many	color	_____
mid-middle	day	_____
non-not	sense	_____
un-not	necessary	_____
inter-between	national	_____



- The beautiful butterfly had \_\_\_\_\_ wings.
- Sometimes I wish this mess in my room would just \_\_\_\_\_.
- On a warm day it is \_\_\_\_\_ to bring a heavy coat.
- He was mad because he \_\_\_\_\_ what I said.
- The teacher made me \_\_\_\_\_ my essay.
- By \_\_\_\_\_ the sun was high and we were hungry.
- Olympic athletes enjoy \_\_\_\_\_ fame.
- Dad thought my excuse was pure \_\_\_\_\_.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:**

First, read the story. Then go back and underline any word you see that has a prefix. Finally, below, write the word you underlined that matches each meaning given.

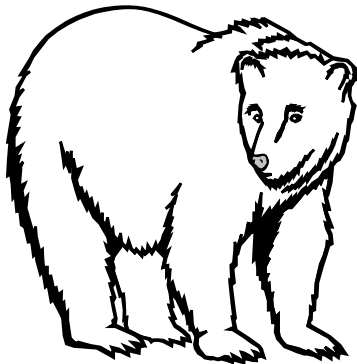
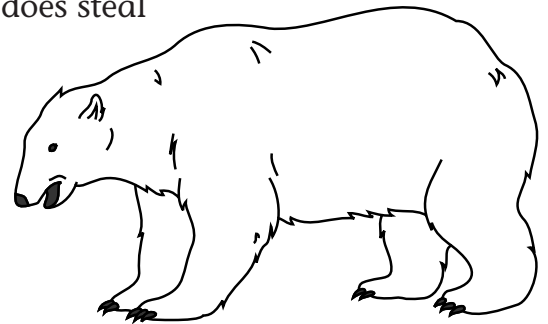
### The Bear Facts

The word “bear” can conjure up a variety of images—from a sweet teddy to the untamed force of a grizzly. There are actually seven species of bear and many subspecies. Their size, appearance, habitat, and diet differ greatly. The polar bear and grizzly are the indisputable kings of the bears.

The largest of the bears is the polar bear. It roams the harsh arctic, undaunted by the cold. The key to its survival there lies in its coat. Over a dense underfur lie long hairs that get matted when wet and help keep the skin dry. Seals are its main prey, and ice floes provide a base of operations on its incessant quest for food.

The grizzly has immense physical strength and mobility. Once these bears roamed much of North America, but due to human intrusion, they have retreated to mainly northern remote areas. Though easily capable of knocking down a bison, this bear prefers to indulge in berries and roots. And yes, this brown bear does steal honey from bees’ nests.

Despite their differences, these two kinds of bears are so closely related that the two can interbreed and produce fertile hybrid offspring.



1. fur that lies below: \_\_\_\_\_
2. not able to argue with: \_\_\_\_\_
3. never ceasing: \_\_\_\_\_
4. withdrew; moved back: \_\_\_\_\_
5. invasion: \_\_\_\_\_
6. variety listed under a species: \_\_\_\_\_
7. not hampered or discouraged: \_\_\_\_\_
8. mate between species: \_\_\_\_\_
9. wild: \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_