

NATURAL RESOURCES

Lesson Plan

Word Building

Lesson Plan for *Sunlight*
Grade 2

Objective

To help students practice using common prefixes and suffixes to determine the meanings of words.

Things Needed

- *Sunlight* book
- Whiteboard
- Several colors of whiteboard markers

Before the Activity

Read *Sunlight* out loud as a class.

Activity

Sunlight is a renewable resource. Ask students to raise a hand and provide a definition of the word *renewable*. Then, use the glossary on page 31 of *Sunlight* to check their answers:

- *renewable*: able to be replaced or used again so it does not run out.

Write the word *renewable* on the whiteboard. Then, use three separate colors to underline the word's prefix, root, and suffix: re – new – able. Explain that the word *renewable* has three parts. Each part contributes to the word's meaning. The suffix “-able” means something can be done. The prefix “re-” means “again.” So, *renewable* means “able to be made new again.”

In fact, readers can often guess the meaning of a new word if they know what its parts mean. As an example, write the word *nonrenewable* on the whiteboard. Point out that this word has three of the same parts as the word *renewable*. Underline them in the same colors you used before. Then, underline the prefix “non-” in a new color. Ask students the following questions:

- What does “non-” mean? (Answer: It means “not.”)



- Based on this answer, what do you think the word *nonrenewable* means? (Sample Answer: not able to be used again)

Then, write the following definition on the whiteboard:

- nonrenewable: having a limited amount.

Finally, ask students to brainstorm other words that include the prefixes “non-” or “re-” and write their answers on the whiteboard, underlining each prefix with the corresponding color. Use the following sample answers to provide prompting if students get stuck:

- non-: nonstop, nonsense, nonfiction, nonliving
- re-: redo, reuse, rewrite, remake, rerun, return

Evaluation

Could students answer the questions about the words and their parts? Could they brainstorm other examples of words with similar suffixes and/or prefixes?

Standards

This lesson plan may be used to address the Common Core State Standards’ language standards, grade 2 (L 2.4), and reading standards: foundational skills, grade 2 (RF 2.3).

