

Reading Centre

making a difference

Words are my superpower





Hi! My
name is
Biocat.



Words are my superpower

Building word knowledge
through
morphology

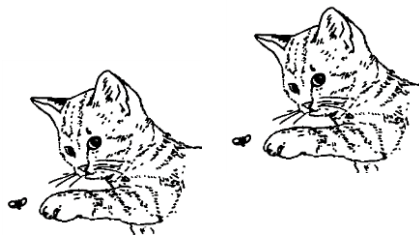
What is a morpheme?

A **morpheme** is the smallest unit of a word that carries meaning.

For example: the word 'cat' has **one** morpheme. It means a small furry, four-legged animal that meows.



The word 'cats' has **two** morphemes – 'cat' + 's'. The 's' means more than one.



Why are morphemes important?



Understanding how morphemes work is important for **decoding** and **spelling**.



Morphemes, or root words, help us to decode words because morphemes are always spelled the same way and they always have the same meaning.



Building our understanding of morphemes allows us to make meaning of words we hear and words we read, and helps us to grow our vocabulary.



When learning @ home

Step 1

Your child chooses a root word (morpheme) from the cards provided. These are listed below.

spect *geo* *thermo* *aqua*
auto *tele* *port* *mono*



When **learning @ home**

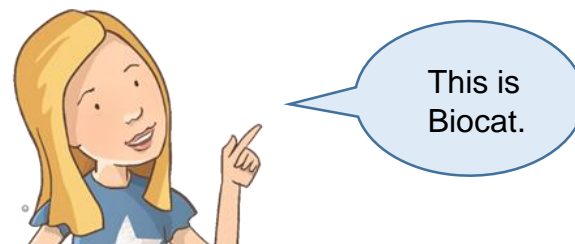
Step 2

Create your superhero.

Your superhero's name must contain the root word.

Your superhero's power must be something to do with your root word.

Create your superhero – here is an example



'Bio' means **life** so
his superpower is
having

9

lives.



When learning @ home

Step 3

Choose three to five words from the list provided that have your root morpheme in them.

Use these to create a word wall. Your word wall could be your fridge, a door or a noticeboard.

Create your word wall – an example

Biocat



Bio = life

biology

biography

biopsy

biosphere

biohazard



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Step 4

Use the glossary provided to make meaning of the words.

Use the glossary to make meaning – an example

Bio = life

biology	=	the study of life
biography	=	writing about a person's life
biopsy	=	examination of living tissue
biosphere	=	a surface of earth covered with life
biohazard	=	danger to life

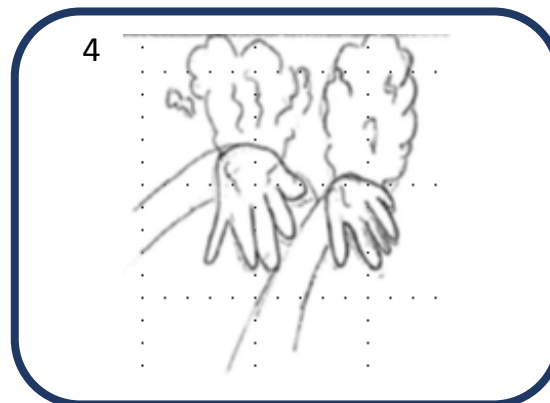
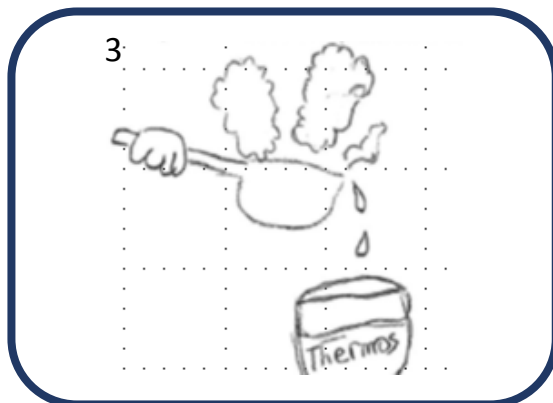
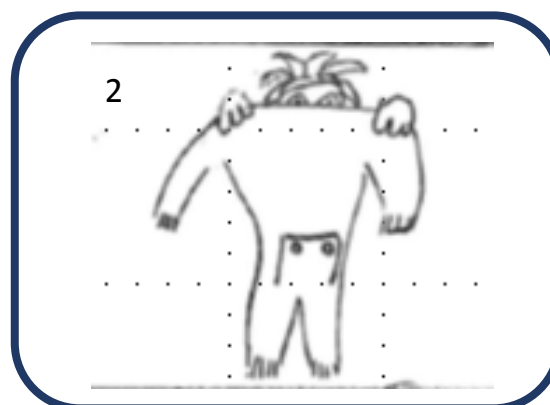
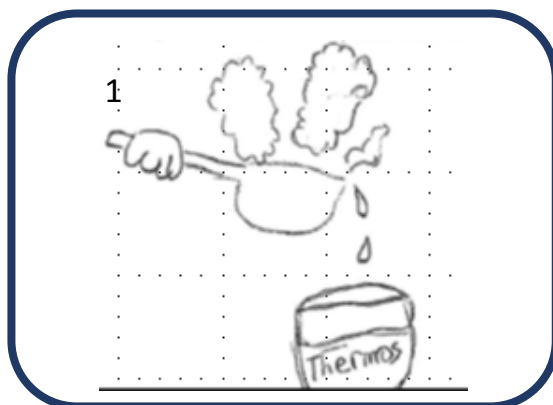
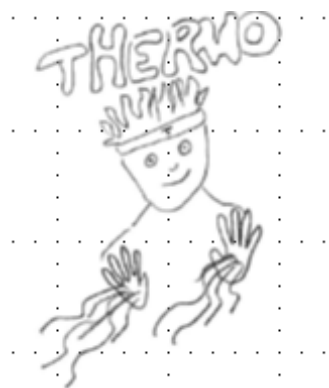


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Step 5

Create a comic strip.

Create a comic strip – an example



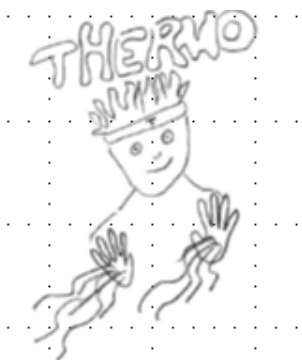


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Step 6

Write a story to go with your comic strip. You can write it yourself or write it with someone else.

Create a comic strip – an example



1 Thermo looked at the thermostat. It had icicles on it because it was so cold.

2 He put on thermal underwear to warm up.

3 He put hot soup in his thermos.

4 But when he tried to shoot fireballs only puffs of smoke came out.



Keep going with your word building. How many superheroes can you make?

Have fun and enjoy learning at home while you practise your word building skills.