

Marvelous Morphology

mor·phol·o·gy

Morphology should be taught within the context of vocabulary instruction as a strategy for understanding the relationships among words based on their shared roots, prefixes, and suffixes. Words that are connected to each other in meaning should be grouped together to teach. When students connect a new word to an existing schema, including background knowledge and related words, they will learn the word more easily.

Notice how the different structures offer clues for both meaning and pronunciation.

instructor = prefix + root + suffix

in + struct + or

in means in (*“in” can also mean “not”*)

struct means to build

or means one who; that which; noun

An **instructor** is one who teaches—
i.e., builds knowledge.

Increasing morphological awareness has important implications, especially for students who have difficulties with reading and spelling. Morphological instruction can improve the literacy outcomes for struggling students (i.e., children with learning and reading disabilities and English Language Learners) and this type of instruction can be embedded across grade levels with a focus on meaning within connected text.

Learn more about marvelous morphology. Click on [Morphology](#) in the Literacy How Reading Wheel!

Image retrieved from <http://asthebunnyhops.com/2013/09/word-week-morphology/>.

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