

3RD GRADE · READING

Word parts: **un-, re-, -ful and -less**

FOR YOU How to use this in 5 minutes

1 Teach the four parts. **SAY:** “A prefix like un or re starts a word. Un means not, and re means again. A suffix like ful or less ends it. Ful means full of, and less means without.”

2 Build and explain. **SAY:** “Put the parts together. Then tell me what the new word means, using the meaning of the part.”

3 Use them. **SAY:** “Read each sentence and pick the word that fits. Then write the word that matches each clue.”

Tip. Ask for the meaning with the part in it, so careless means without care. That one habit helps your child work out words they have never seen.

1 The word parts

un- means not

re- means again

-ful means full of

-less means without

2 Build the word. Write what it means.

un + kind = _____ means _____

re + read = _____ means _____

hope + ful = _____ means _____

fear + less = _____ means _____

un + safe = _____ means _____

re + paint = _____ means _____

3 Circle the word that fits

The ice was thin, so skating on it was **unsafe** **unkind** .

The fence was peeling, so we had to **reread** **repaint** it.

I was **hopeful** **careless** that we would find the lost puppy.

4 Write the word that matches the clue

full of color _____ not happy _____

without help _____ fill again _____

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Answer key

Word parts: un-, re-, -ful and -less

2 Build the word. Write what it means.

unkind: not kind

reread: read again

hopeful: full of hope

fearless: without fear

unsafe: not safe

repaint: paint again

3 Circle the word that fits

The ice was thin, so skating on it was unsafe.

The fence was peeling, so we had to repaint it.

I was hopeful that we would find the lost puppy.

4 Write the word that matches the clue

full of color: colorful

not happy: unhappy

without help: helpless

fill again: refill

If it's hard

- If a meaning is hard to put in words, point to the key: un plus kind is not kind.
- Hunt for more in a favorite book. Every un, re, ful and less you find together is a small win.



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