

## Lesson 33: Prefixes

**Phonics Focus:** A prefix is a small but meaningful group of letters added in front of a root word that adds to the meaning of the word.

Knowing the meanings of prefixes will help students unlock the meanings of hundreds of words. It is a good idea to learn these meanings so that when students encounter them in new vocabulary words they will have a greater understanding of them. Explain the prefixes as the student encounters them.

A suffix is a group of letters added to the end of a root word that adds to the meaning, such as **er** and **ing**. Suffixes will be covered in more detail in Lesson 34.

When dividing longer words into syllables, first look for any prefixes and suffixes added to the root or base word.

### Most Common Prefixes

<u>Prefix</u>	<u>Meaning</u>	<u>Example</u>
un	not, opposite of	unhappy

re	again, back	return
in, im, ir, ill	not, opposite of	indirect
dis	not, opposite of	discover
en, em	cause to	enjoy
non	not, opposite of	nonfiction
in, im	in, or into	inside
over	too much, above	overgrown
mis	wrong	misunderstand
sub	lower, under	subway
pre	before	prepared
inter	between, among	interstate
fore	before, the front	forehead
de	down, opposite of	descend
trans	across, over, beyond	transfer
super	over, above, on top of	superstar
semi	half, partly	semicircle

anti	against, opposed to	antifreeze
mid	middle	midday
under	too little, lower, below	underarm
ex	former, out, out of	exhale
bi, bin	having two, twice	bicycle
co	together with	cooperate
post	after, or following	postpone
tri	three	tricycle

## Dis/cov/er/ing Bike Trails!



All a/cross the U/ni/ted States lies a net/work of a/maz/ing hid/den trea/sures: Bike Trails! With a lit/tle **prep/ar/a/tion**, you and your fam/il/y could **dis/cov/er** these won/der/ful jewels and spend time to/geth/er **en/joy/ing** the na/tur/al beau/ty of the **out/doors**.

For any **ad/ven/ture**, you first need to be Early, Ready, and **Pre/pared**. In or/der to **pre/pare** for a bike trail trip, you first need a **bi/cy/cle** in good work/ing or/der. Your par/ent should look your **bi/cyc/le** over and

make sure that all the gears and brakes are working well, and that the tires are prop/er/ly in/fla/ted. Then, you should make sure that you have plenty of water. You can ei/ther use a water bot/tle hold/er at/tached to your bicycle or you can put your water bottles in a back/pack, along with some snacks. This will keep you hy/dra/ted and full of en/er/gy. Next, you will need to search on the in/ter/net for a local bike trail. Many old rail/roads have been re/pur/posed to become bike trails. Local Bicycle Clubs are also a good re/source for finding trails. Do your home/work and find out how long the bike trail is. Re/mem/ber that how/ev/er far you ride on a trail, you need to still have en/er/gy, time, and sun/light to re/turn. Or, if you have a friend that can drive, and a bike rack, you can ask your friend to drive you and your fam/il/y to the be/gin/ning of a bike trail and then pick you all up at the end



of the trail. Tunnel Hill State Trail in Southern Illinois is good for this kind of trip. If you start at the beginning of the trail in Tunnel Hill and end in Vienna, Illinois, you can actually **de/scend** and ride downhill for the majority of the trip! Finally, to be Early, Ready, and Prepared, find a few Adventure Buddies to go with you. Your parents or another adult are good choices. You should never go on a bike trail alone. If you have problems or need help, you need to have someone with you that can help you.

Some bike trails will take you through **un/in/hab/it/ed** forests with **over/grown** vines and **won/der/ful**



wildflowers. The air is fresh with oxygen. **In/hale** the fresh air and **ex/hale** all your worries!

So, what are you waiting for? Talk to your parents today about the possibility of going on a Fun Family **Bicycle** Outing!