

# Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

**Word Work**  
Henry's Freedom Box  
By: Elen Levine  
Grade Level: 4 / Guided Reading Level: Q

**Instructional Focus:**  
Inflectional endings past and present "ed" and "ing" and identification of root words

**Background:**  
An **inflectional ending** is a modification (suffix) to specify a change in its verbal self. In this lesson of Word Work, we will focus on inflectional endings "ing" and "ed".

**Examples:**

try	tr
follow	fo
vote	v
twist	tw
worry	w
slip	sl

**Materials and Preparation:**

- A Copy of Henry's Freedom Box
- White board, chalkboard, or marker
- Graphic Organizer for Inflected Endings
- All Boxed Up practice page
- Optional - Word Detective

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**Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work**

**Introduce Inflectional Endings**

- Explain to students that we can add suffixes to a verb to show whether the action is present or past.
- Today you'll be discussing adding "ing" for present tense, and "ed" for past tense, and identifying root words.
- Show students the anchor chart that has been transcribed onto chart paper (or other medium).
- Have student volunteers fill in and add other examples to the list.

ROOT (BASE) WORD	PRESENT TENSE	PAST TENSE
create	creating	created
manage	managing	managed
spell	spelling	spelled
try	trying	tried
rub	rubbing	rubbed
eat	eating	ate
eat	eat	eaten

**Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading**

**Inflectional Endings in the Text**

- Explain to students that today you will be reading the book, *Henry's Freedom Box*.
- Pass out the Graphic Organizer for Inflected Endings (one per student).
- Explain that while students are reading, they should write down a verb that they hear under the appropriate heading.
- After reading, students may work together in pairs to complete their organizer as much as possible. At this point you should circulate around the room answering questions, and making suggestions for corrections in spelling.

**Examples of Inflectional Endings Found in the Text:**

- allowed	- loaded	- poured
- worked	- worked	- burned
- lived	- yelled	- baraged
- bowing	- poked	- opened
- called	- asked	- printed
- climbed	- agreed	- needed
- backoned	- piled	- delivered
- beat	- married	- rushed
- giving	- worried	- ached
- oozy	- whispered	- placed

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Step by Step Lesson Plan

List of words in the book that match the instructional focus

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**Step 3: Guided Word Work Practice**

**Interactive Exploration**

- Ask for volunteers to continue adding verbs on the class anchor chart.
- If a student mistakenly writes a noun with "ing" (such as morning on page 5), explain that not every word ending in "ing" is a verb. At the same time explain that not every verb will end in "ing" or "ed". (For example, "wear" has a past tense of "wore," irregularly spelled).

**Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice**

**Practice Page**

- Pass out the ALL BOXED UP practice page.
- Go over directions with students.
- Answer any questions.
- Students may work independently or in pairs.

**Step 5: Reconnect and Reflect on Word Work**

**Group Discussion**

- Bring the students back together.
- Ask students to explain what they learned about words based on the work they completed.
- Invite students to turn and talk with a partner about their word work.
- Invite 2-3 students to share what they learned with the group.

**Step 6: Extend Word Work (optional)**

**Extension Activity**

- Ask students to be on the lookout for **inflectional endings** in their own reading. Tell them to write their words on a sticky note and add them to the anchor chart (review the coded sticky notes with the class later in the day or before moving on to the next word work lesson).
- Alternatively, students can keep track of the words using the **Word Detective worksheet**.

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Interactive Activities

Independent Practice Page

Extension Activity

**Graphic Organizer for Inflected Endings**

ROOT (BASE) WORD	PRESENT TENSE	PAST TENSE
Example: bark	barking	barked

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**Word Detective: Inflectional Endings**  
Extension Activity

**Directions:**  
Be a word detective!  
Be on the lookout for **inflectional endings** while you read. Write the word that you find along with the title of the book where you found the word, the page, and the sentence with the word or phrase.

Word	Book Title	Page	Sentence

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**Inflectional Endings Ended**  
Word Work Practice Page

**Directions:** Write the missing verb forms ("ing" and "ed") for each of the bold face words on the freedom boxes below.

<b>frying</b>	<b>climbed</b>
<b>pinch</b>	<b>smiling</b>
<b>hopped</b>	<b>gallop</b>
<b>rehearsing</b>	<b>bubbled</b>
<b>cook</b>	<b>dropping</b>

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