

MORPHOLOGY

in *Words Their Way: Classroom*

What is morphology?

A morpheme is the smallest unit of meaning in a language. Studying base elements and affixes helps readers decode and unlock the meaning of complex words.

Why is knowledge of morphology critical for students to become proficient readers?

When students understand prefixes, suffixes, and root words, they have the knowledge needed to decode unfamiliar multisyllabic words. Knowledge of prefixes, suffixes, and root words also helps students understand how those word parts change the meanings of words.

How does *Words Their Way Classroom* support the development of morphology?

As students learn to read and write on their own, the program presents a systematic scope and sequence of inflectional morphology (the study of inflectional endings such as *-ed*, *-ing* and plurals), base words and affixes, and the derivational morphology found in Greek and Latin word roots.

