The Morphology Project

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What is the Morphology Project?

- The Morphology Project is a collaboration between staff from 3 local Perth Primary Schools in Western Australia.

- This project is a bank of explicit, direct instruction style PowerPoint lessons that align with the Reading Science in Schools (RSiS) morphology scope and sequence created by Jasmine Shannon.

- This project is one half of The Grammar Project, the other being The Syntax Project, which is a similar set of explicit, direct instruction style PowerPoint lessons that align with the RSiS syntax scope and sequence.

- These PowerPoints can be used to support the explicit instruction of English morphology to develop students spelling and vocabulary development.

Using the resources

The RSiS morphology scope and sequence and the PowerPoints from The Morphology Project can be used:

- In conjunction with a spelling program already being implemented, to explicitly teach morphology from Yr 1-6.

- As a stand alone resource to explicitly teach morphology for spelling and vocabulary from Yr 1-6.

Before using the resources

- We encourage you to watch the free professional learning session "Beyond Phonics – Morphology and Why it Matters" by Jasmine Shannon and Kylie Conrad prior to using these resources.

https://thinkforwardeducators.org/events/shannon-conrad-jun2022

Where to start – Year 1 + Year 2

- The RSiS morphology scope and sequence in Yr 1 and Year 2 focuses on the explicit instruction of affixes (prefixes and suffixes).

- Use the affix slide decks to explicitly teach these prefixes and suffixes, showing children how to build and spell familiar words that are aligned with the phonics sequence you use (i.e. children also have the required phonics code knowledge)

- Practice and apply activities could include word sorts, word webs, word sums, word bags, dictation.

Where to start – Year 3 to Year 6

- The RSiS morphology scope and sequence from Year 3 follows a "base centric" approach.

- Children need to know affixes and their meanings in order to work with the base elements being taught.

- Use the separate affixes PowerPoint if these have not been taught to students **prior to** teaching the Year 3 content.

- Children need to know the suffixing conventions in order to work with the base elements being taught.

- Use the separate suffixing convention PowerPoints if these have not been taught to students **prior to** teaching the Year 3 content.

- Children need to know what assimilated prefixes are

- Use the separate assimilated prefix PowerPoints if these have not been taught to students **prior to** teaching the Year 3 content.

Starting checklist– Year 3 to Year 6

Question	Yes	No
1. Do students know the meaning of the affixes that can be added to the base element you are going to teach?	Go to question 2.	Teach first using separate affix PowerPoints
2. Have students been taught the required suffixing conventions they need to know when working with the base element you are going to teach?	Go to question 3.	Teach first using separate suffixing convention PowerPoints
3. Have students been taught the assimilated prefixes they need to know when working with the base element you are going to teach?	You are ready to start!	Teach first using separate assimilated prefix PowerPoints

Integrating morphology into vocabulary & content

- Once prefixes, suffixes and bases/roots are taught using the explicit lessons, we recommend incorporating into vocabulary instruction and teaching content.

An example of linking morphology instruction into teaching content can be found here, a resource on the Velveteen Rabbit, created by Brendan Lee:

How teachers have a finger in every pie, but no time to eat it - Learning with Mr. Lee (learnwithlee.net)

Where do I get the resources?

- Please visit The Grammar Project webpage and click on "access lessons" to download the resources

https://thesyntaxproject2022.squarespace.com

Finding more words to work with

- The matrices included in this suite of resources are starting level (i.e. one prefix > base element > one suffix)

- The PowerPoints are editable should you wish to expand them and show children how multiple prefixes/suffixes can be added to base elements (e.g. auto + bio + graph + y / con + struct + ive + ism) to build words

- Resources such as Jason Wade's base bank are helpful tools for locating additional words that can be build using a base element, beyond what is contained in this suite of lessons https://jweducation.co.uk/2021/04/13/the-base-bank/

- https://www.candokidsacademy.com/

- https://wordtorque.com/category/engagewthepage/

- https://www.phormes.com/

- https://www.facebook.com/Kylie.Conrad.Literacy.Links/

Helpful websites

- Etymology Online https://www.etymonline.com/
- English Word Information https://wordinfo.info/