

Compound Word Meaning Graphic Organizer

Compound words are formed when two shorter words are combined to create one longer one. Students who are explicitly taught to identify the morphemes, or individual units of meaning, in these words are better equipped to read and understand them in context. This graphic organizer is intended to supplement explicit instruction in understanding compound words. It allows students to organize their thoughts as they identify and define the smaller words in a compound word and use this information to determine the compound word's meaning.

Additional Resources

For more information on teaching compound words, read the Iowa Reading Research Center blog post [“Effective Literacy Lesson: Understanding Compound Words Through Their Two Word Parts”](#) by Anna Gibbs, Ph.D., and Deborah K. Reed, Ph.D.

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