

## Vocabulary • Word Structure

- A **suffix** is a syllable added to the end of a base word to change its meaning or the way it is used in a sentence.
- The suffix *-ful* means “full of \_\_\_\_\_,” as in *careful*. The suffix *-al* means “from, of, or like \_\_\_\_\_,” as in *fictional*. You can use suffixes to help you figure out the meanings of words.

**Directions** Read the following story about a trip to the library. Then answer the questions below.

**W**hen I went to King Memorial School, there was a contest for telling a story about our town’s original settlers. My friends and I formed a team and went to the local library. I was doubtful that our team would win until we

talked to the town historian in the library. She told us the wonderful story of one brave pioneer family. To us, the story was a logical choice. I was really prideful when my team won the prize for telling our town’s most colorful story.

1. What does the word *prideful* mean in the story?

**“full of pride”**

2. What does the word *original* mean in the story?

**“from the origin”**

3. What is the suffix in the word *wonderful*? What does *wonderful* mean?

**It means “full of”; *wonderful* means “full of wonder.”**

4. What does the suffix mean in the word *logical*? What does *logical* mean?

**It means “of”; *logical* means “of logic.”**

5. Think of another word that ends with either *-ful* or *-al*. Tell the meaning of the word. Then use it in an original sentence.

**Possible answer: *Beautiful* means “full of beauty”; The ocean looked beautiful at sunset.**



**Home Activity** Your child identified suffixes in words to understand their meanings. With your child, read a short selection. Ask your child to point out words that use suffixes and what those words mean.