

Suffix Spelling Rules

What happens to a base word when -ing, -ed, -er, -y join it.

1-1-1 Doubling Rule

double the final consonant

Examples: run-running, hop-hopped, sit-sitting, big-bigger

Drop the Silent E

drop e before a vowel suffix

Examples: make-making, hope-hoping, bake-baker, nice-nicer

Change Y to I

consonant + y becomes i

Examples: baby-babies, happy-happier, cry-cried, try-tries

Keep the Y (vowel before)

vowel + y stays the same

Examples: play-playing, play-played, boy-boys, stay-stays

Keep the E (consonant suffix)

keep e before -s/-ful/-less

Examples: hope-hopes, care-careful, hope-hopeless

No Doubling Needed

2 vowels or 2 consonants at the end

Examples: rain-raining, jump-jumping, fast-faster