



Making Nouns from Other Words Worksheet



Turning a verb or a describing word into a thing: teach becomes teacher.

MASTERED BY

**The -er ending (the person who does it)
is usually usable by 4 to 5**

ITEMS

80

Name: _____

Date: _____

English builds new words out of old ones by bolting an ending on. Add -er to a verb and you get the person who does it: teach, teacher. Add -ness to a describing word and you get the quality itself: happy, happiness. This is called derivation, and it is worth targeting directly, because a child who understands the pattern can work out a word they have never heard before - which is most of what reading comprehension asks of them.

What to expect: -er comes first and comes easily, often overgeneralised in a charming way: a child may call a nurse a "shotter" or a vacuum a "sucker". That is the pattern working correctly on a word that happens not to exist. The abstract endings are much later and much harder, because the resulting word names something you cannot point at.

The Person Who Does It (-er)

Fill in the blank with the word for the person who does each thing.

 Someone who teaches is a ____.

 Someone who paints is a ____.

 Someone who bakes is a ____.

 Someone who sings is a ____.

 Someone who farms is a ____.

 Someone who dances is a ____.

 Someone who builds is a ____.

 Someone who swims is a ____.

 Someone who reads is a ____.



10 Someone who paints houses is a ____.

11 Someone who drives is a ____.

12 Someone who helps is a ____.

The Person Who Does It (-er): Round 2

Someone who does it gets -er or -or on the end.

13 Someone who paints is a ____.

14 Someone who sings is a ____.

15 Someone who farms is a ____.

16 Someone who runs is a ____.

17 Someone who builds is a ____.

18 Someone who swims is a ____.

19 Someone who cleans is a ____.

20 Someone who jumps is a ____.

21 Someone who paints houses is a ____.

22 Someone who bakes bread is a ____.

The Person Who Does It (-er): Round 3

Someone who does it gets -er or -or on the end.

23 Someone who teaches swimming is a ____.

24 Someone who catches the ball is a ____.

25 Someone who plays the drum is a ____.

26 Someone who sails is a ____.

27 Someone who rides a bike is a ____.

28 Someone who throws the ball is a ____.



29 Someone who reads a lot is a ____.

30 Someone who climbs is a ____.

31 Someone who walks the dog is a ____.

32 Someone who cooks is a ____.

Turn It Around

Say what each person does.

33 A teacher is someone who ____.

34 A runner is someone who ____.

35 A climber is someone who ____.

36 A writer is someone who ____.

37 A player is someone who ____.

38 A catcher is someone who ____.

39 A speaker is someone who ____.

40 A worker is someone who ____.

Turn It Around: Round 2

Take the -er off and say what that person does.

41 A painter is someone who ____.

42 A singer is someone who ____.

43 A farmer is someone who ____.

44 A builder is someone who ____.

45 A swimmer is someone who ____.

46 A driver is someone who ____.

47 A baker is someone who ____.



48 A reader is someone who ____.

Turn It Around: Round 3

Take the -er off and say what that person does.

49 A runner is someone who ____.

50 A drummer is someone who ____.

51 A cleaner is someone who ____.

52 A rider is someone who ____.

53 A climber is someone who ____.

54 A thrower is someone who ____.

55 A walker is someone who ____.

56 A helper is someone who ____.

Describing Word to Thing

These endings turn a describing word into the name of the feeling or quality. Fill in the blank.

57 When you are happy, you feel _____. (-ness)

58 When you share your cookie, you show _____. (-ness)

59 When you are sad, you feel _____. (-ness)

60 When the room has no light, there is _____. (-ness)

61 When something is soft, you feel its _____. (-ness)

62 When you climb the tall ladder, you show _____. (-ery or -ness)

63 When you are quiet, there is _____. (-ness)

64 When you wear a funny hat, everyone enjoys your _____. (-ness)

Describing Word to Thing: Round 2

Turn the describing word into the name of the feeling.



65 When you are kind, you show _____. (-ness)

66 When you are sad, you feel _____. (-ness)

67 When something is dark, there is _____. (-ness)

68 When you are ill, you have an _____. (-ness)

69 When something is soft, you feel its _____. (-ness)

70 When you are quiet, there is _____. (-ness)

71 When you are bold, you show _____. (-ness)

72 When something is thick, you measure its _____. (-ness)

Describing Word to Thing: Round 3

Turn the describing word into the name of the feeling.

73 When you are brave, you show _____. (-ry)

74 When something is clean, you notice its _____. (-liness)

75 When you are lonely, you feel _____. (-ness)

76 When a road is wet, there is _____. (-ness)

77 When you are silly, you show _____. (-ness)

78 When you are gentle, you show _____. (-ness)

79 When the cup is full, you see its _____. (-ness)

80 When something is loud, you hear its _____. (-ness)



Answer Key

The Person Who Does It (-er)

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| 1. teacher | 7. builder |
| 2. painter | 8. swimmer |
| 3. baker | 9. reader |
| 4. singer | 10. painter |
| 5. farmer | 11. driver |
| 6. dancer | 12. helper |

The Person Who Does It (-er): Round 2

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 13. painter | 18. swimmer |
| 14. singer | 19. cleaner |
| 15. farmer | 20. jumper |
| 16. runner | 21. painter |
| 17. builder | 22. baker |

The Person Who Does It (-er): Round 3

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 23. teacher | 28. thrower |
| 24. catcher | 29. reader |
| 25. drummer | 30. climber |
| 26. sailor | 31. walker |
| 27. rider | 32. cook |

Turn It Around

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 33. teaches | 37. plays |
| 34. runs | 38. catches |
| 35. climbs | 39. speaks |
| 36. writes | 40. works |

Turn It Around: Round 2

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| 41. paints | 45. swims |
| 42. sings | 46. drives |
| 43. farms | 47. bakes |
| 44. builds | 48. reads |

Turn It Around: Round 3

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| 49. runs | 51. cleans |
| 50. drums | 52. rides |



53. climbs



54. throws

**Describing Word to Thing**

57. happiness



58. kindness

59. sadness

60. darkness

55. walks

56. helps

61. softness

62. bravery

63. quietness

64. silliness

Describing Word to Thing: Round 2

65. kindness

66. sadness

67. darkness

68. illness

69. softness

70. quietness

71. boldness

72. thickness

Describing Word to Thing: Round 3

73. bravery

74. cleanliness

75. loneliness

76. wetness

77. silliness

78. gentleness

79. fullness

80. loudness