Lesson Thirty-two One Kind of Change: Adding Letters

- 1 One suffix *-er* adds the meaning <u>"more"</u> to words. Another suffix *-er* adds the meaning <u>"one that does"</u>
- 2 The suffix that adds the meaning "most" to words is __-est__
- 3 The following rule is called the Rule of Simple Addition

Unless you know some reason to make a change, when you add elements together to spell a word, do not make any changes at all. Simply add the elements together.

- 4 Now we are going to look at one of those reasons for making a change when we add elements together. Read these sentences and sort the seven bold-face words into the groups below:
 - a. Those are big oranges.
 - b. They are **bigger** than the oranges we had before.
 - c. They are the **biggest** oranges I have ever seen.
 - d. That is **hot** soup.
 - e. It is **hotter** than the soup we had before.
 - f. It is the **hottest** soup I have ever eaten.
 - g. She is a good **swimmer**.

Words that end with <i>-er</i>	Words that end with <i>-est</i>	Words that don't end with - er or -est
bigger	biggest	big
hotter	hottest	hot
swimmer		

5 In the column labeled "Words" below write the words you found that end with either -er or -est.

Each of these five words is made up of two elements: a free base and a suffix. But when you take the two elements apart, you find an extra letter right in the middle. Divide each of the four words into its two elements and show the extra letter — just as

we have done with bigger.

Words	=	Free Base	+ L	.etter	+ :	Suffix
bigger	=	big	+	g	+	er
hotter	=	hot	+	t	+	er
swimmer	=	swim	+	т	+	er
biggest	=	big	+	g	+	est
hottest	=	hot	+	t	+	est

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Word Changes.

1. Write the word <i>wettest:</i>	<u>wettest</u>
2. Take away the suffix. Be sure you also take away	
the extra letter!	<u>wet</u>
3. Write the word backwards and then put an <s></s>	
in front of it:	<u>stew</u>
4. Change the last letter in the word to the	
letter that comes seven places in front of it	
in the alphabet:	<u>step</u>
5. Move the up to the front of the word. Then	
move the <st> to the end:</st>	<u>pest</u>
6. Take away the second consonant in the word:	pet
Riddle: A dog who has been for a swim is a <u>wet</u>	<u>pet</u> .
Word #2	Word #6

Teaching Notes.

- 1. This lesson begins the study of changes that can supersede the Rule of Simple Addition. There are three kinds of changes: Either (i) one or more letters are **added** to the word, or (ii) one or more letters are **deleted** from the word, or (iii) one or more letters are **replaced** (which really means that something is deleted and then something is added in its place). We've used the phrase "one or more letters" in this description, but the fact is that very nearly always it is just one letter that is added or deleted or replaced.
- 2. Item 4: It may be worthwhile to be sure the students understand what meanings the *-er* suffixes are adding to *bigger*, *hotter*, and *swimmer*.