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HOW TO USE

Use this morpheme matrix to help your students practice forming and spelling words with the base element, CAVE.

Begin by teaching the root. Here is a possible script for teaching the base element, CAVE.

1. (Write "cave" on the board.)
2. Our new root word is "cave". Let's read it together. (cave)
3. CAVE is related to a Latin word meaning *hollow*.
4. (Write "cave" on the board.)
5. Watch me scoop the parts as I read this word.
6. (Scoop your hand under the parts as you read the word aloud.)
7. The word is CAVITY. It means *hollow space within a solid object*.
8. (Post the following words on the board for all to read in unison as you scoop your hand under each word part.)
 - excavate
 - concave
 - caves
 - cavity
 - cavern
 - cavernous
 - excavation
 - excavator

Make sure all children can see the morpheme matrix or have their own copy. Show them how to use the matrix to build words with the base element, CAVE.

Students can work alone or in partners to find and record as many words as they can.

ex con	cave HOLLOW	s	
		ate	s ed ing ion or
		ity	es
		ern	s ous
		©themeasuredmom.com	

ex con	cave HOLLOW	s	
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		©themeasuredmom.com	

	ex con cave HOLLOW		©thamesurednom.com	
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Name _____

ex con	cave HOLLOW ©themeasuredmom.com	s	
		ate	s ed ing ion or
		ity	es
		ern	s ous

Use the matrix to write as many word sums as you can.

Example: ex + cave + ate + ion → excavation

_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____

ANSWERS WILL VARY*

cave
caves
caved
caving
cavity
cavities
cavern
caverns
cavernous
excavate
excavates
excavated
excavating
excavation
excavations
excavator
excavators
concave
concaves
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