

Families

a Look up all these words and their meanings.

mechanic mechanical mechanically mechanism

How are they alike in meaning?

How are they alike in spelling?

b Look up the word **imagine**.

Find some other words that belong to the same word-family.

Write them down with their meanings, on a separate sheet.

*The part of a word that stays the same in a word family is called the **root**.*

*The part that is added to end of a root is called a **suffix**.*

c Build up some word families by adding some different suffixes to these words:

calm happy rest excite observe

[Sometimes you have to change the spelling of the root when you add the suffix, so use the dictionary to help with this.]

d Investigate some of the words you can make by changing – or removing – the suffix on these words:

necessity identity imagination
pitiful friendly active

You could divide into groups to discuss these questions, and name one person to write down your findings.