

What's included?

10 reading passages

Fluency tracker

Halloween Morphology Vocabulary
Name: _____ Date: _____

The House at Hollow Hill

Mara had always been curious about the abandoned house at the top of Hollow Hill. According to local legend, no one had lived there for nearly a century. Yet every Halloween, a pale **specter** was said to appear behind one of the upstairs windows. Most people avoided the house. Mara did not.

She stood at the rusted iron gate, clutching a small flashlight and trying to ignore the nervous flutter in her stomach. Her best friend, Theo, had promised to come with her, even though he thought that exploring a **haunted** house was an unnecessarily foolish idea.

Mara pushed open the gate while Theo hesitated on the path, glancing desperately over his shoulder.

"Ugh, come on!" Mara grabbed his sleeve and dragged him forward.

The garden was strangely silent. Dead vines twisted around the fence, and an **unearthly** mist curled between the trees. Mara followed the cracked stone path until she reached the front door. To her surprise, it swung open before she touched it. Theo gulped loudly.

Inside, the air was cold and smelled of dust. A narrow staircase disappeared into **darkness** above her. Mara hesitated. Then she heard a faint sound. She and Theo looked at each other with wide eyes. It definitely sounded like a child humming somewhere upstairs.

"Hello?" Mara called out, her voice shaking.

The humming stopped.

Mara and Theo climbed the stairs. At the top, they discovered a small room filled with dusty furniture and ancient photographs. One photograph caught her attention. It showed a young girl standing beside the very gate Mara had just entered through.

On the back, cursive writing scrawled a barely legible message: *Do not let her disappear.* Suddenly, the photograph began to glow.

Mara dropped it, a shiver running down her spine. When she looked down again, the picture was empty. The girl was gone.

A cold breeze swept through the room, and the door slammed shut behind her. Mara shrieked and huddled close to Theo, who was visibly shaking now.

"Well, at least we know it's haunted," Mara grinned nervously at her friend. "But I think it's time to go!"

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Comprehension activities

Word list

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Answer the comprehension questions based on the story.

Question	Answer
Why does Mara decide to explore the house, and how does Theo feel about it?	
What details make the house and its surroundings seem mysterious or frightening?	
What does Mara discover in the upstairs room?	
What message is written on the back of the photograph, and why does it make Mara nervous?	
How does the final scene change Mara's feeling about the house?	

Match the word to its meaning. Use the story to find context clues.

Word	Meaning
specter	to suddenly become impossible to see or find
unearthly	very old; belonging to a distant past
abandoned	a ghostly or frightening apparition
ancient	left empty or deserted
disappear	strange and unnatural

Halloween Morphology Vocabulary
Name: _____ Date: _____

The House at Hollow Hill

Word List

Word	Morpheme Structure	Root Meaning	Origin
curious	cur + -ious	cur = care, concern	Curious comes from Latin <i>curiosus</i>
abandoned	abandon + -ed	abandon = leave behind	Abandon entered English through Old French from a phrase
specter	spect + -er	spectare = look, see	Specter comes from Latin <i>spectrum</i>
haunted	haunt + -ed	haunt = visit repeatedly	Haunt came into English from Old French
unearthly	un- + earth + -ly	earth = the world beneath our feet	Unearthly combines the English prefix <i>un-</i> with <i>earth</i> and <i>-ly</i>
darkness	dark + -ness	dark = lacking light	Darkness is an Old English formation
photograph	photo + graph	phos = light; graph = writing	Photograph combines two Greek elements meaning "light" and "writing"
ancient	ancient	old, from long ago	Ancient entered English through Old French from Latin <i>ante</i>
disappear	dis- + appear	dis- = away; appear = come into sight	Disappear developed through French from Latin
whispered	whisper + -ed	whisper = speak very softly	Whisper is an old English word



Why you'll love it!

- ✓ Fiction & non-fiction reading passages
- ✓ Engaging morphology reading material
- ✓ Fluency passages for older students
- ✓ Unique way to explore etymology



Passage Titles

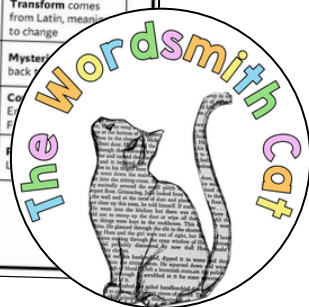
- The House at Hollow Hill
- From Ancient Festivals to Halloween
- The Lantern in the Attic
- Why Do We Wear Halloween Costumes?
- The Midnight Maze
- Why Are Bats Associated with Halloween?
- The Diary of a Halloween Night
- The Strange Story of the Jack-o'-Lantern
- The Exhibit That Came Alive
- Why Do We Believe in Halloween Superstitions?

Halloween Morphology Vocabulary

From Ancient Festival to Halloween

Word List

Word	Morpheme Structure	Root Meaning	Origin
ancient	ancient	before, from long ago	Ancient came into English through Old French from Latin <i>ante</i>
celebrations	celebrate + -ion + -s	<i>celebrare</i> = gather or honor	Celebrate comes from Latin <i>celebrare</i>
transition	trans- + it + -ion	<i>trans-</i> = across; <i>ire</i> = go	Transition comes from Latin
supernatural	super- + natur + -al	<i>super-</i> = above; <i>natura</i> = nature	Supernatural comes from Latin
spirits	spirit + -s	<i>spirare</i> = breathe	Spirit comes from the Latin word <i>spiritus</i>
traditions	tradit + -ion + -s	<i>tradere</i> = hand over	Tradition comes from Latin <i>traditio</i>
transform	trans- + form	<i>trans-</i> = across; <i>forma</i> = shape	Transform comes from Latin, meaning to change
mysterious	myster + -ious	<i>mysterion</i> = secret	Myster back
costumes	costume + -s	<i>consuetudo</i> = custom, habit	Co
plentiful	plent + -iful	<i>plenus</i> = full	Pl



Ways to use this product.

✓ Independent morphology practice

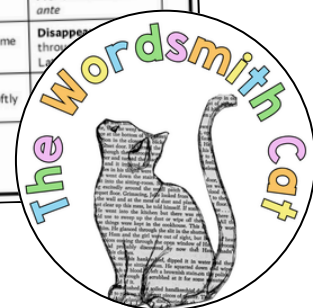
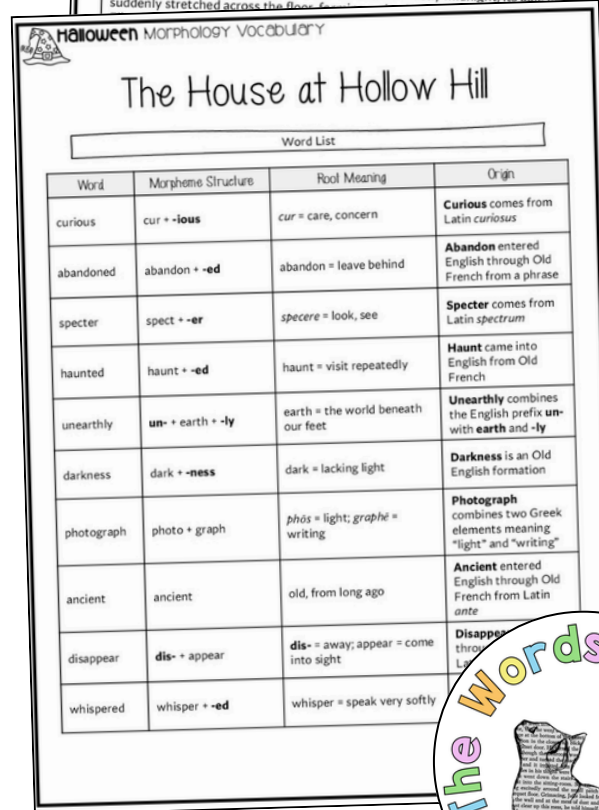
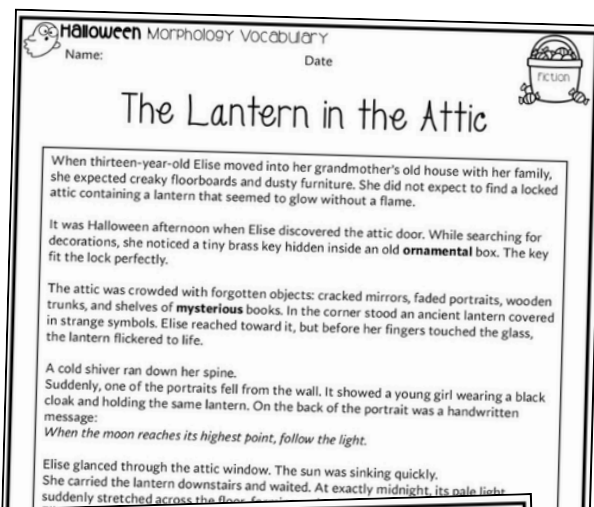
✓ Explicit morphology teaching

✓ Small group reading task

✓ Morphology notebook printable

✓ Homework task

✓ Early finisher activity



Teach morphology!

Help students understand word structure.

Boost vocabulary and comprehension skills.

Enhance decoding and word recognition ability.

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