Making new nouns: answers and notes

What your child practised: adding the suffix –er to a verb (doing word) to name a person, and –ness to an adjective (describing word) to name a feeling or quality.

Page 1 · Warm up

farmer · **singer** · **darkness**

Page 2 · Try it together

Answers will vary, for example painter, reader, cleaner, swimmer; sadness, kindness, happiness. (Swim doubles its m: swim**m**er. Happy changes y to i: happ**i**ness.)

Page 2 · A. Ring the suffix

teach**(er)** · dark**(ness)** · sing**(er)**
kind**(ness)** · paint**(er)** · soft**(ness)**

Page 3 · B. Match and write

farm → –er → **farmer**
ill → –ness → **illness**
read → –er → **reader**
fair → –ness → **fairness**

Page 3 · C. Fill the gap

1. **teacher** · 2. **kindness** · 3. **darkness** · 4. **player**

Page 3 · D. Draw a job

Any –er job word that fits the picture: builder, baker, farmer, painter, cleaner, driver…

Challenge: No. Sad is a describing word, so to name the feeling we add **–ness**: "Mia felt a lot of **sadness**." *Sadder* is a real word, but it compares two things: "Mia was sadder than Leo."

Watch out for

- **Mixing up –er and –ness.** Ask: "Is it a person who does something?" (–er) or "Is it a feeling or a way of being?" (–ness).
- **Not every –er word is a person.** Some are things that do a job (a toaster, a heater) and some compare (taller). Today we're looking at people.

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Job spotting:** on a walk or in a book, spot people who do jobs and name them with –er: driver, builder, gardener.
- **Feelings faces:** pull a face and let your child name the –ness word: sadness, kindness, gladness.
- **In the game:** Chapter 2 joins two whole words to make one noun, like whiteboard and football.