

# Chapter 4

# Inflectional endings and terminology

## Introduction

This chapter explores inflectional suffixes that are added to words to make a sentence grammatically correct. Children learn that '-ed' is used to identify the past tense of regular verbs (although it may be pronounced in different ways). Spelling of verbs with suffixes '-ing' and '-s' (third-person singular present tense), plural nouns (with '-s') and comparative and superlative adjectives (with '-er' and '-est') are introduced. The third section focuses specifically on terminology for spelling. An assessment activity and ideas for assessment have been included at the end of the chapter.

## Poster notes

### Comparatives and superlatives (page 59)

The poster gives examples, with illustrations, of four spelling rules for adding '-er' and '-est'. The poster provides specific support for photocopiable page 67 and can be used for whole-class teaching work as well as for a reference for children. Use the spelling patterns as a starting point for a more extended investigation of rules for adding suffixes. For example, children could explore spelling changes when adding different suffixes to the same word (*worry/worrying/worries/worrier; noise/noises/noisy/noisily/noisier/noisiest.*)

## In this chapter

<b>Changing verbs</b> page 60	To learn that regular past tense verbs are formed by adding '-ed', but that this can be pronounced in various ways. To learn the spelling changes needed when adding '-ing' or '-s' to verbs.
<b>Changing nouns and adjectives</b> page 64	To learn how to add '-s' or '-es' to nouns to form plurals. To spell plurals where the singular ends with '-y'. To learn the spelling rules for adding '-er' and '-est' to form comparative and superlative adjectives.
<b>Terminology</b> page 68	To understand and use the terminology related to spelling.
<b>Assessment</b> page 72	Activities and ideas to assess the use and spelling of words with inflectional suffixes.

