


The Spring Equinox

The Spring Equinox B16



Focus Morpheme		Vocabulary
Root	<i>equ</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> equal unequal equally equator equinox equator adequate
Pronunciation	The root <i>equ</i> is usually pronounced /ē-kw/.	
Etymology of <i>equ</i>		Activating Prior Knowledge
Origin	Latin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at the Vocabulary list above. In what subject do you use many of the words? Explain what those words mean. Which words on this list are unfamiliar? Can you predict their meaning?
Meaning	the same; equal	
Examples:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>equal</i> <i>unequal</i> 	

Getting Started: Before showing students **Card B16**, write *equ* on the board and say:

- *Today's morpheme is the root equ. Within a word, it is usually pronounced /ē-kw/. Write the word equal on the board. Read this word with me. Equal.*
- *Remember, a root by itself is not a word. To create a word from a root, we can add a prefix to the beginning or a suffix to the end. Look again at the word equal. We see the root equ. Underline the root. What is left? The suffix, -al. Circle the suffix. What does the word equal mean?*
- *What other words can you think of that include the root equ?* Record student suggestions, underlining the root in each. Retain this list.
- *Looking at these words, predict the meaning of the root equ.*

PAGE 1

Introducing the Morphemes

Display page 1 of the digital version of the student card. Say: *Look at this page. What do you notice? Read the title. Have you heard the word equinox before?* After some discussion, explain that the word *equinox* comes from the roots *equ*, meaning “equal,” and *nox*, meaning “night.” On the *equinox*, the length of day and the length of night are nearly **equal**.

Etymology

- *Let's explore the etymology of the root equ. What is the origin?* (Latin)
- *Now let's compare the meaning of this root with our predictions.* Discuss as appropriate.
- *We have already discussed the first example word, equal. Look at the second word, unequal.*

With the prefix un-, meaning “not,” at the beginning, the word unequal means “not equal or not the same.” Refer to Wall Card B3.2.

- *Turn to a partner and say a sentence first with the word equal and then one with the word unequal.*

The word **adequate** means “**equal** to what is needed or desired” or “enough.”

Vocabulary

- *Let's read aloud the Vocabulary words.*
- Discuss the pronunciation of the word **adequate**.
- *Now let's compare the list of words we created to the Vocabulary list on the page. Did we miss any words? Are there any words on our list that are not on the Vocabulary list?*

Activating Prior Knowledge

Engage students in a discussion guided by the questions on the page. Ensure that students make the connection to mathematics for many of these words.

PAGES 2–3

Reading Words in Context

Display pages 2 and 3. Read the text *to* students, pausing periodically for discussion. Then, invite students to read portions of the text *with* you.

Show students a visual of the **equator** on a map or globe.

Vocabulary Connections

Ask students to try to read the Inuvialuktun words with you using the pronunciation guides after the words. Also read the English translation underneath these words. Remind students who do not speak Inuvialuktun to be respectful as they try their best to read an unfamiliar language.

Time to Talk

- The 56 days with 24-hour sunlight are in late June, July, and early August.
- The 30 days without sunlight are mostly in December and early January. (*Note:* The tilt of the Earth at this time of year means the sun's rays are not seen.)
- Sun graphs are available for various regions of the country. Your students may be interested in exploring them to see how much daylight there is on various days of the year.

Did You Know?

Ask students to compare the sizes of muskrats and beavers. Ask: *Which is longer? Which weighs more?*

PAGE 4

Consolidating Learning

Word Study

Invite students to add the details about today's morpheme to their Word Study notebook. Post **Wall Card B16.1**.

Word Meanings Through Pictures: Encourage students to be creative when drawing the meanings of *equal* and *unequal*. Their drawings for **equilateral** triangle and **equator** will be more standard.

Writing Connections

Consider having students share what **equality** means to them with a partner or small group.

Pronunciation Guide

Do your best to pronounce the Inuvialuktun words using the pronunciation guide in the square brackets to help you. The word Inuvialuit [*In-uu-vee-A-loo-weet*] is used throughout the reading passage and refers to Inuit of the Western Arctic.

Extension

The word *midnight* includes the prefix *mid-*. Ask students to list other words with the prefix *mid-*. (midweek, midterm, midday) What do they think this prefix means? ("the middle part of") You may choose to post **Wall Card B16.2** (*mid-*).

Connections

Equality and **equity** are not the same thing. **Equality** is everyone getting the same thing. **Equity** is everyone getting what they need to make their situation better.