

Name _____



Root Code Breakers

Directions: Each word below contains a root that gives an important clue to its meaning. Use your knowledge of roots to "decode" each unfamiliar word. Write what you think the word means, then check your definition using the clues in the sentence.

1. **Aquarium** - The colorful fish swam gracefully inside the large **aquarium** at the science center.

2. **Chronometer** - Sailors used a **chronometer** to keep precise track of time during long ocean voyages.

3. **Autograph** - The athlete smiled as she gave each fan her **autograph** after the game.

4. **Microscope** - Using a **microscope**, the student could see the tiny cells that were invisible to the naked eye.

5. **Terrarium** - A lizard and a few small plants lived happily in the classroom **terrarium**.

6. **Biography** - The author wrote a **biography** about the life of a famous explorer.

7. **Telegraph** - Before phones existed, people sent messages using the **telegraph**.

8. **Phonics** - Learning **phonics** helps children understand how letters connect to sounds in reading.

9. **Geology** - The scientist studied rocks, mountains, and volcanoes as part of her work in **geology**.

10. **Thermostat** - The **thermostat** keeps the classroom comfortable by adjusting the temperature automatically.