

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Names hold a lot of information—if you can decipher the meaning behind them.

What can you learn from the names of these fantastic beasts?



The Thunderbird is a bird whose flapping wings can create storms.



A Demiguise is a beast that can disguise itself using invisibility when it wants to.

WORD ROOTS: BREAK THE CODE:

The study of the origin of words is called etymology. Modern languages, including English, are filled with not-so-hidden meanings from older languages, such as Latin and Greek. These word roots below help form many common words.

AERO = air or wind

AMBUL = move

AQU/A (HYDR/O) = water

CAP = head

CELER = fast

CHROM = color

CHRYS = gold, yellow

CRYO = freezing

DEMI = half

DENT = tooth

DERM = skin

DYN = power, energy

HYPER = excessive

KIN = motion

MUT = change

MY/O = muscle

OMNI = all

OSTEO = bone

PAN = entire

PED = foot

PHON = sound

POLY = many

PYR = fire, heat

RHIN/O = nose

RUPT = burst

UNI = one

VOC = voice

YOUR TURN

Use the roots above to create a new name for a real animal or object.

For example, you may want to rename a kitten. Kittens are constantly moving around.

You may choose the roots HYPER (excessive) + KIN (motion) to rename a kitten a HYPERKIN!

1. Choose an animal or object:

3. Select possible roots for its new name:

2. List its qualities:

4. Create its new name:

WRITING CHALLENGE: On a separate sheet of paper, describe the animal or object using only its NEW name. Include details that you find fantastic or interesting. When you have finished, swap papers with a partner. See if you can guess each other's animals or objects!

MAGI|ZOO|LOGY
Magic Animal Study

Take the Magizoology 101 quiz to find out which fantastic beast you have the most in common with! At scholastic.com/fantasticbeasts101.