

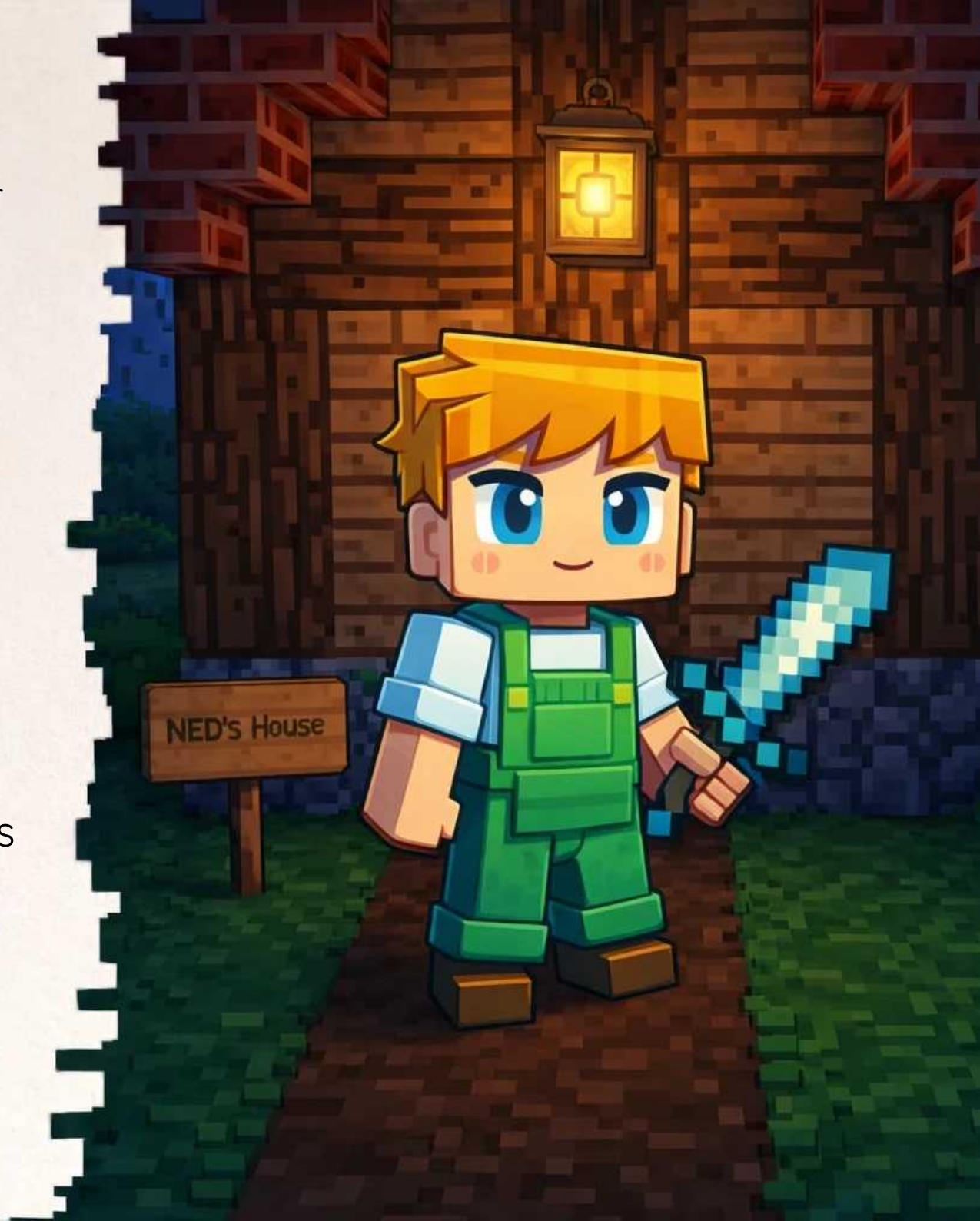
An Unofficial Minecraft Series

Ned
and the
MAGIC BOOK

Done Being a Potato



Ned has a **happy** life. His house has a post by the door that says 'Ned's House,' so nobody can steal it. But every night, when the sun dips low and the **darkness** creeps in, monsters come. Every night, Ned hides under his blankets and pretends to be a potato. Not tonight. Tonight Ned grabs his magic blade, marches to the door, and yells, 'I am done being a potato!'





He does not wait long.
A zombie lurches out
of the **darkness**,
groaning like a **rusty**
old door. It is a huge,
ugly **creature**, and it
smells like old socks in
a wet swamp. 'Help,'
says Ned, and his
blade feels very small.

The zombie swings its big **greenish** arms at Ned. Ned dodges, spins, and slashes **swiftly**. His magic blade lights up like a bolt of lightning, and with one quick swing, the zombie bursts into a puff of green dust. **'Ha!'** Ned yells. He points his glowing blade at the **darkness**. 'Who is next? I can do this all night long!'





The zombie is gone, but a lump of **sticky, greenish** flesh sits on the grass. Ned picks it up between two fingers and says, 'Yuck! But this might be useful.' He does not hear the soft click-click-click in the shadows behind him. Something bony is creeping closer, and closer, and closer.

Whoosh! An arrow shoots past Ned's ear and sticks in the grass between his feet. A skeleton steps out from the trees, reaching for the next arrow. Its bones rattle like a bag of dry sticks. 'Hey! That nearly hit me!' Ned cries. He **quickly** dives to the side and hides behind a big tree, his **heart** pounding so hard he is **sure** the skeleton can hear it.





Ned presses his back to the tree and holds his breath. The skeleton hunts near the house, its bony head turning left, then right, then left again. Click, click, click. Only the breeze and Ned's pounding **heart** break the **stillness**. Then the clicking gets louder, and the skeleton is right on the other side of the tree.

'Now!' Ned leaps out from behind the tree, his blade blazing. The skeleton grabs for its bow, but it is far too slow. Ned swings hard, and the skeleton bursts into a pile of bones. 'Two down!' Ned grins with **excitement**. He picks up a bone and waves it like a trophy. 'I am unstoppable!'





'Soon I will have a giant pile of monster parts!' Ned yells into the **darkness**, waving his bone. 'No monster can stop me!' He is so full of pride that he does not notice the groaning behind him. Or the shuffling. Or the huge mob of monsters creeping up so close he can reach out and **touch** one. Ned turns around.

There are too many monsters to count. Zombies and other creatures, side by side, as far as Ned can see. Ned is brave. But Ned is not **silly**. 'I have decided,' Ned says to nobody at all, 'that **running** is brave too.' And he runs. He runs **faster** than he has ever run in his life, with the **whole** groaning, shuffling mob rushing after him.





Ned can see his house! He can see the door! He reaches for the handle, and then he stops. A giant, **horrible** spider sits right in **front** of it, with huge red legs and mean little eyes. The spider looks at Ned like he is a tasty fly. 'Oh, come on!' Ned yells, as the monster mob gets closer behind him.

There is no time to think.
No time to plan. No time
to be scared. Ned charges
right at the spider, his
blade blazing bright. One
huge swing, and the spider
pops! Ned grabs the door
handle with shaking hands,
dives inside his house, and
quickly bangs the door
shut behind him.





Ned leans on the wall, breathing hard. The **warm** torchlight flickers on the wooden walls, and outside, he can hear the monsters groaning and shuffling away into the night. Then Ned spots something on the floor: a tiny golden gem gleaming in the light. He picks it up, **smiling**. 'Same time next night, monsters.'



Done Being a Potato

Ned has built a good life: a house of his own, carrots growing, and a sign on the door so nobody can steal it. But when night falls and monsters creep close, he hides under his blankets and pretends to be a potato. Tonight, though, Ned grabs his magic blade instead. What happens when a boy who's done hiding finally opens the door? Created to align with the UFLI Foundations scope and sequence (Lesson 128: Affixes Review 2), this book practices words like 'quickly', 'faster', 'swiftly', 'smiling', 'happy'.

Phonics Focus: Affixes Review 2

creature, darkness, excitement, faster, front, greenish, ha, happy, heart, horrible, quickly, running, rusty, silly, smiling, sticky, stillness, sure, swiftly, touch, warm, whole

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