

Name _____

Keep or Drop the E?

Astronomers are preparing for a night of stargazing. Decide whether the final silent **e** should be **kept** or **dropped** before adding the suffix.

Spelling Guide

Drop the final e before adding **-ing, -ed, -er, or -est**. *shine + ing = shining*

Keep the final e before adding many suffixes beginning with a consonant, such as **-ful, -less, and -ness**. *hope + ful = hopeful*

Part 1: Mission Control - Circle **KEEP** or **DROP**. Then write the completed word.

1. hope + ing KEEP / DROP _____
2. care + ful KEEP / DROP _____
3. arrive + ed KEEP / DROP _____
4. pale + ness KEEP / DROP _____
5. brave + er KEEP / DROP _____
6. use + less KEEP / DROP _____
7. large + est KEEP / DROP _____
8. excite + ment KEEP / DROP _____



Part 2: Space Signal Sort - Write each completed word beneath the correct heading.

Words to Build: shine + ing hope + ful close + ed care + less
wide + er pale + ness nice + est use + ful

Drop the E	Keep the E
9.	13.
10.	14.
11.	15.
12.	16.