

## **Transcript: Looking at how a prefix changes a word**

**Context:** Small group guided reading lesson

**Student:** "Percy fluttered clear of her father's hand and disappeared out the window."

**Teacher:** What does disappeared mean?

**Student:** I think it means he went out the window because he got away from Dad.

**Teacher:** OK. Let's have a closer look at the word. What happens if I cover up the first three letters?

**Student:** It says ... appeared.

**Teacher:** Which means ...

**Student:** Um ... like ... you can see it?

**Teacher:** That's right. Appeared means "to be there" or "to show up". In this word, "dis" is what we call a prefix. This prefix changes a word to its opposite meaning, so appeared becomes disappeared, which means to go away or not be seen. Do you know any other words that start with "dis"?

**Student:** Um ... disagree ... dishonest ...

**Teacher:** Well done. In both those words "dis" is a prefix that changes the original meaning of the word.