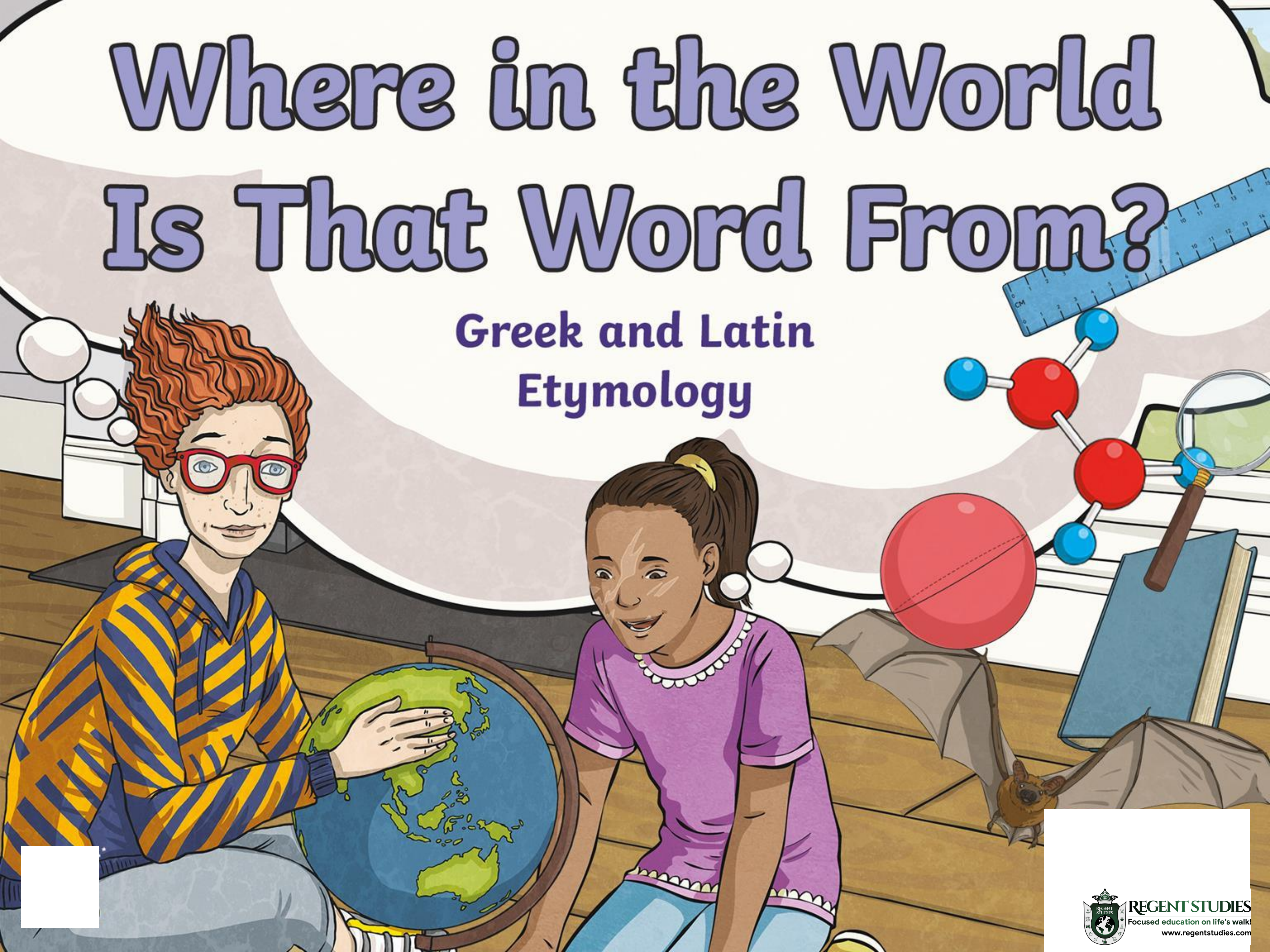


Where in the World Is That Word From?

Greek and Latin Etymology

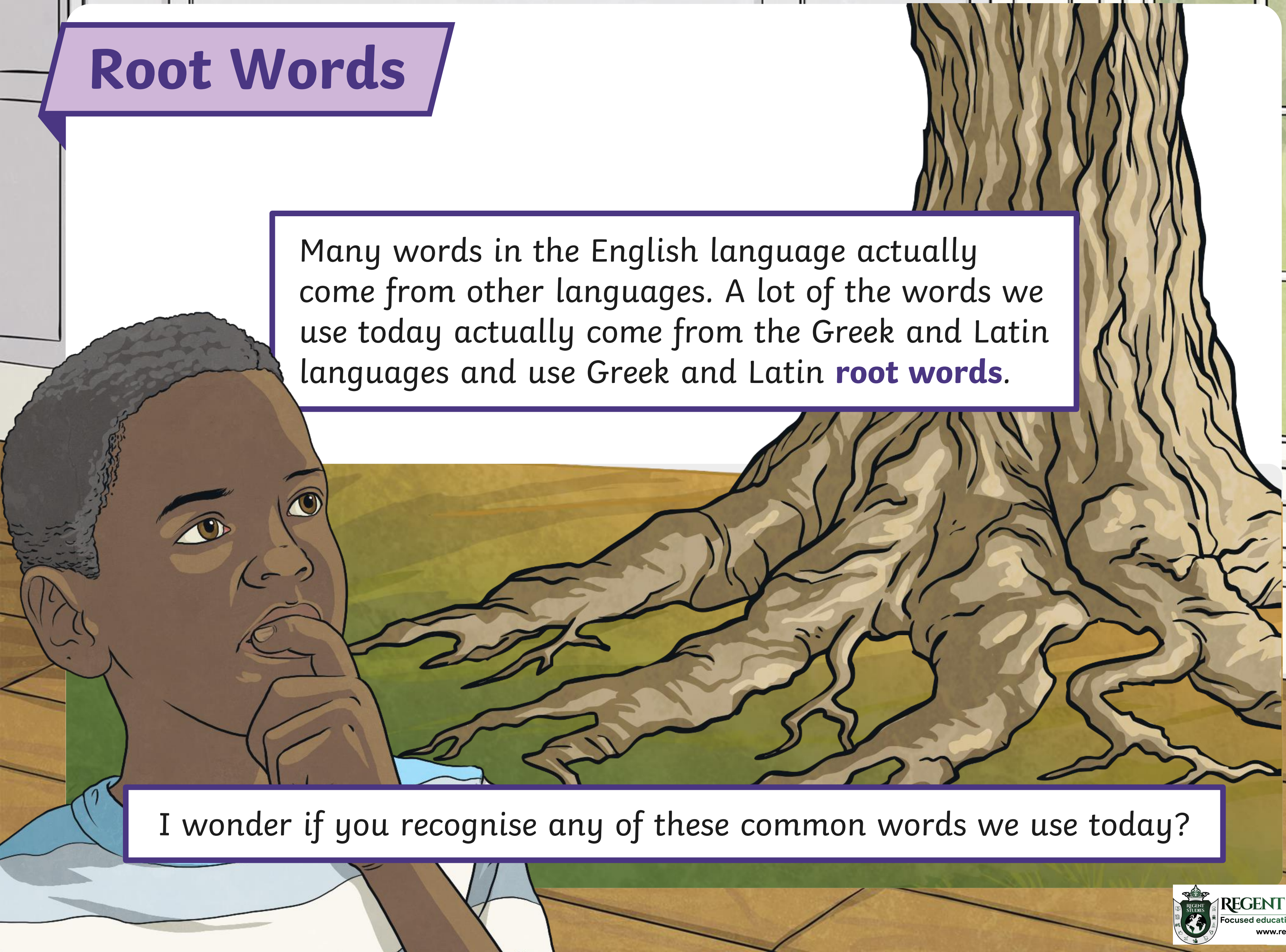
Definitions

Etymology is the study of where words come from (origins) and how their meanings have changed over time (in history).

A **root word** is a word part that forms the basis for new words through adding **prefixes** and **suffixes**.

Understanding where the root word comes from, and what it means, can help you understand the meaning of new words as you encounter them.

Root Words



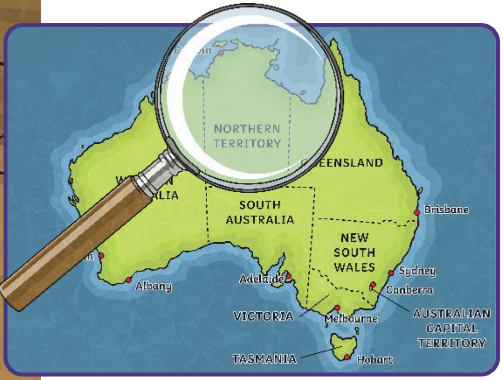
Many words in the English language actually come from other languages. A lot of the words we use today actually come from the Greek and Latin languages and use Greek and Latin **root words**.

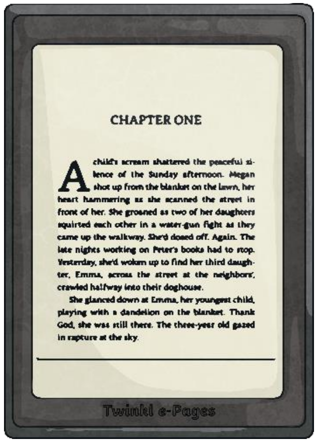
I wonder if you recognise any of these common words we use today?

Greek Root Words

The word **graph** comes from the Greek language.
It means **write**.

Can you think of any words that we use today that contain the root word **graph**?


NORTHERN TERRITORY
SOUTH AUSTRALIA
Brisbane
NEW SOUTH WALES
Sydney
Canberra
Albany
Adelaide
VICTORIA
Melbourne
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
TASMANIA
Hobart

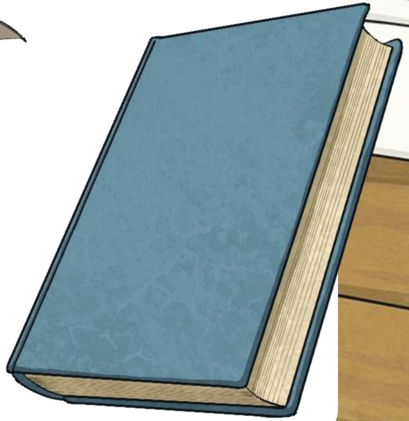


CHAPTER ONE

A child's scream shattered the peaceful silence of the Sunday afternoon. Megan shot up from the blanket on the lawn, her heart hammering as she scanned the street in front of her. She groaned as two of her daughters squirted each other in a water-gun fight as they came up the walkway. She'd dozed off. Again. The late nights working on Peter's books had to stop. Yesterday, she'd woken up to find her third daughter, Emma, across the street at the neighbors', crawled halfway into their doghouse.

She glanced down at Emma, her youngest child, playing with a dandelion on the blanket. Thank God, she was still there. The three-year old gazed in rapture at the sky.

Twinkl e-Pages



Greek Root Words

graph

Did you come up with any of these?

homo**graph**
geo**graph**y
bio**graph**y
autobio**graph**y
para**graph**
carto**graph**y

Greek Root Words

tele

meaning far

How many words containing **tele** can you think of?

telephone
telegraph
television
telecast
telescope
telethon

Greek Root Words

anti

meaning
opposite/against

How many words containing **anti** can you think of?

antidote
antibiotics
antonym
antipathy
antisocial

Greek Root Words

Look at these words, can you work out the Greek root word they are all based on?

autograph

automobile

automatic

autofocus

auto

What do you think **auto** means in English?

self

Greek Root Words

What about these?

photograph

photosensitive

photocopy

photosynthesis

photo

What do you think **photo** means in English?

light

Greek Root Words

What about these?

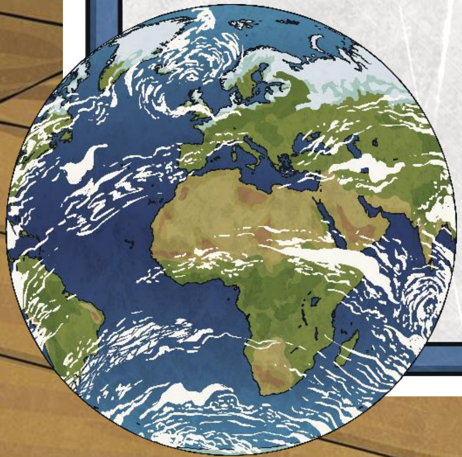
geode

geology

geothermal

geography

geo

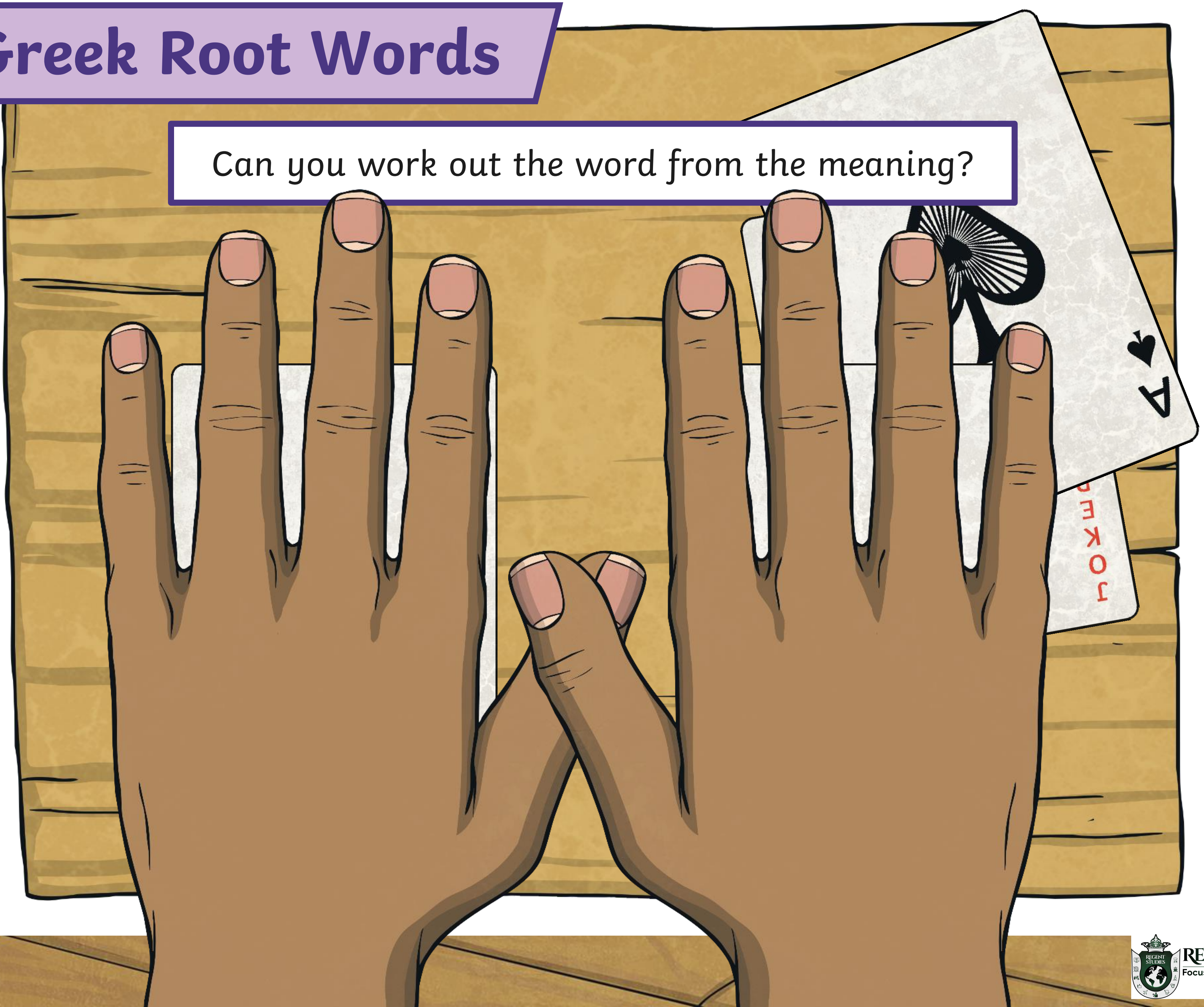


What do you think **geo** means in English?

earth

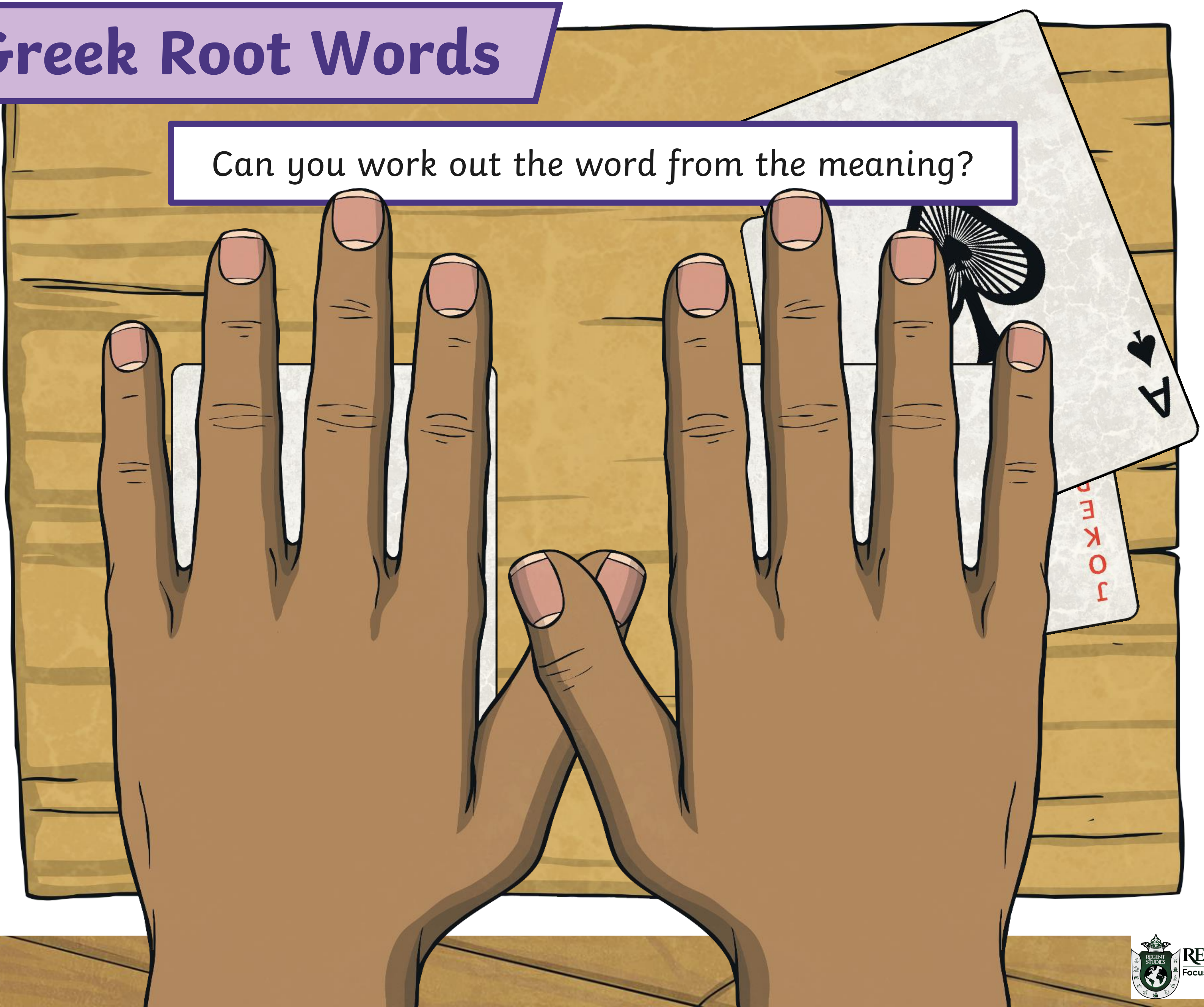
Greek Root Words

Can you work out the word from the meaning?



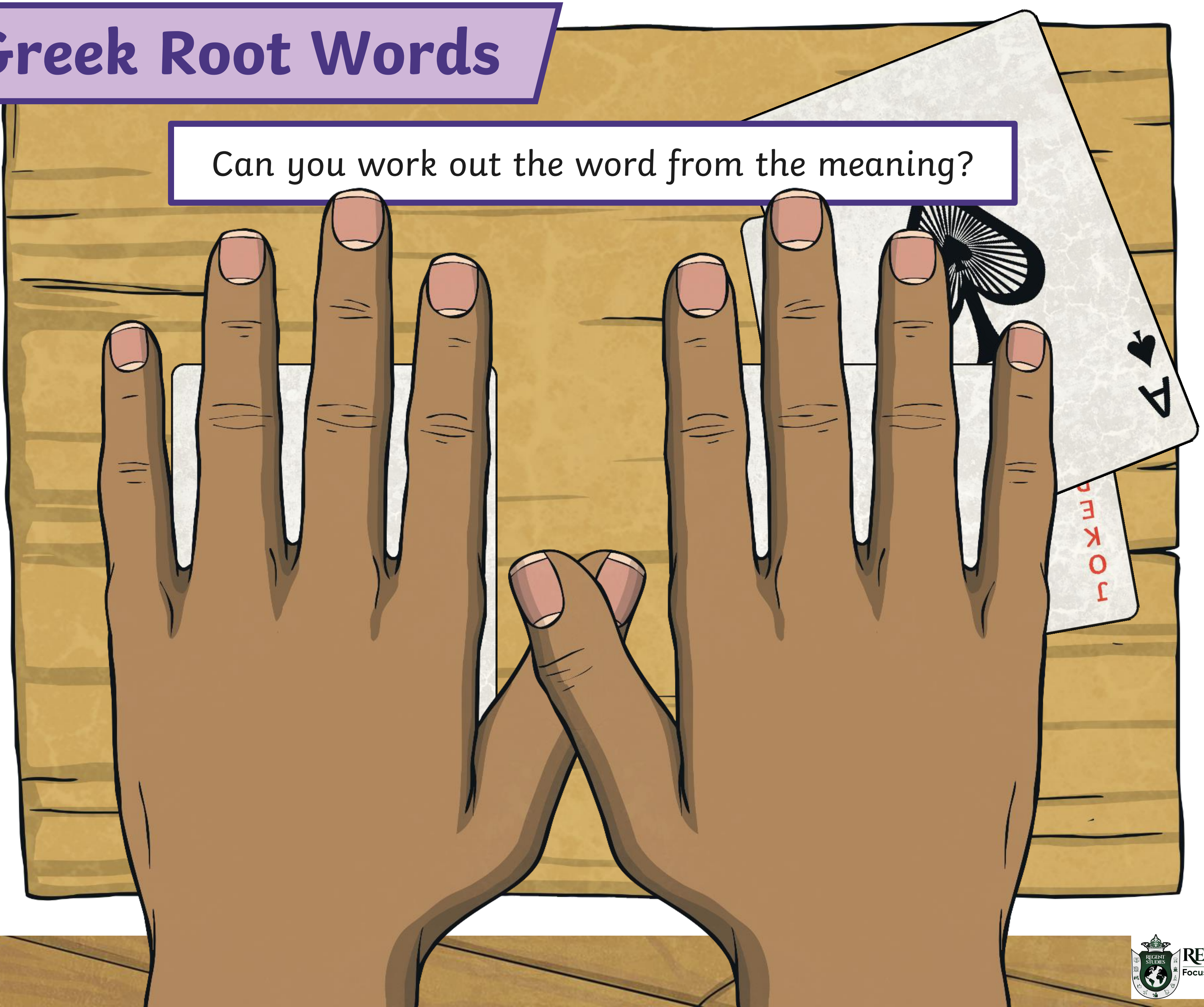
Greek Root Words

Can you work out the word from the meaning?



Greek Root Words

Can you work out the word from the meaning?



Greek Root Words

What is the root word in these words?

hydro

hydrate

hydrant

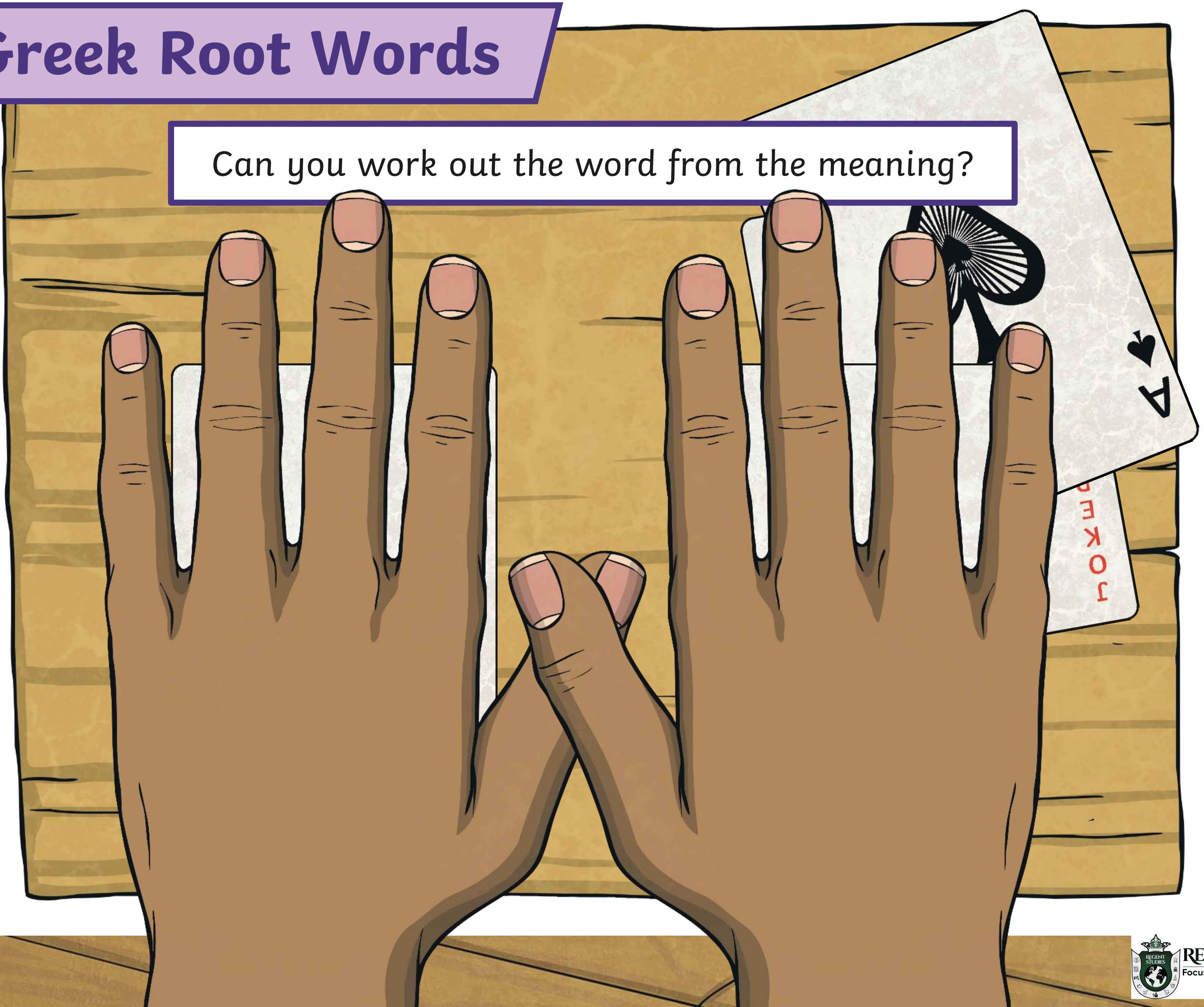
hydroelectric

What does **hydro** mean?

water

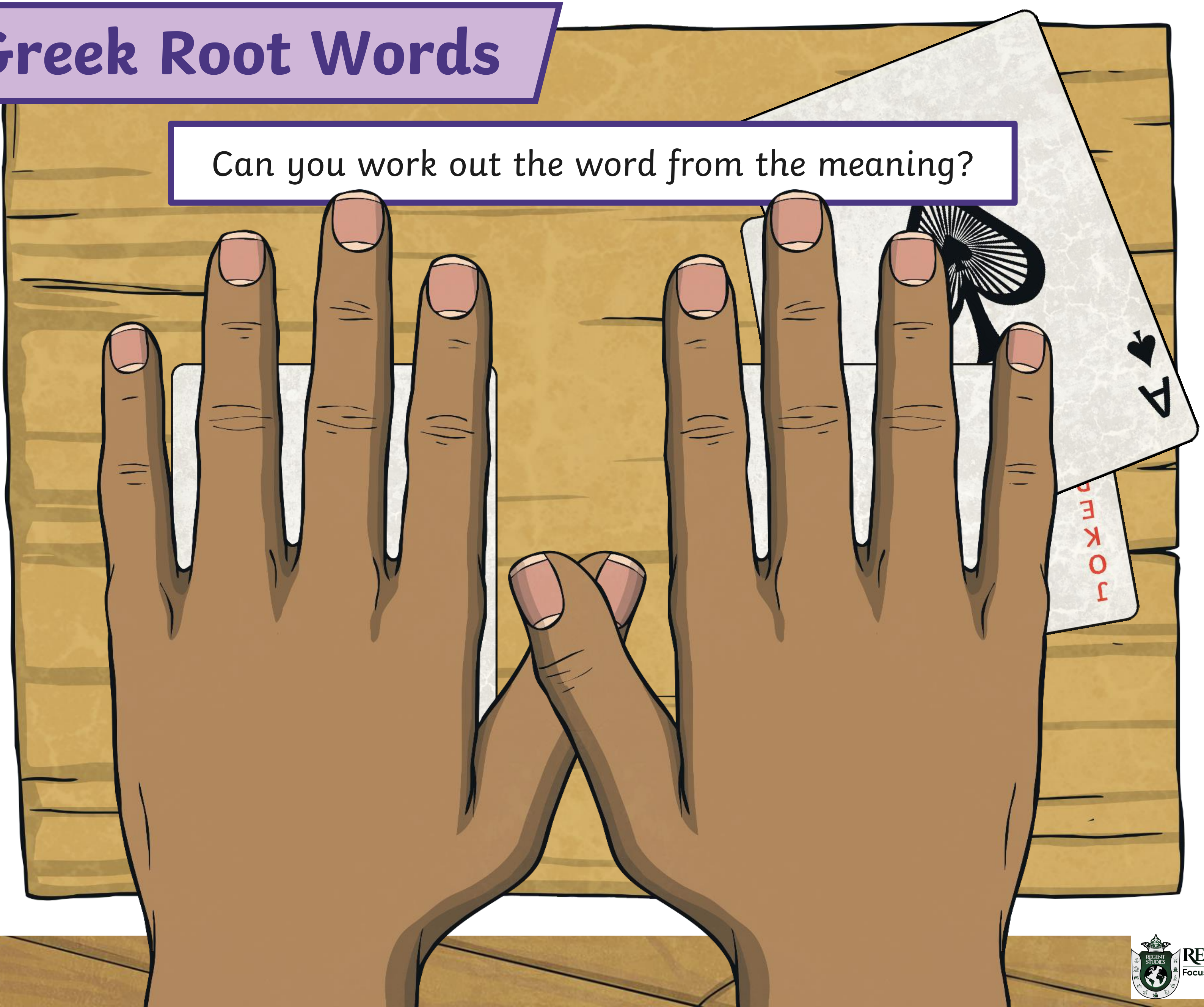
Greek Root Words

Can you work out the word from the meaning?



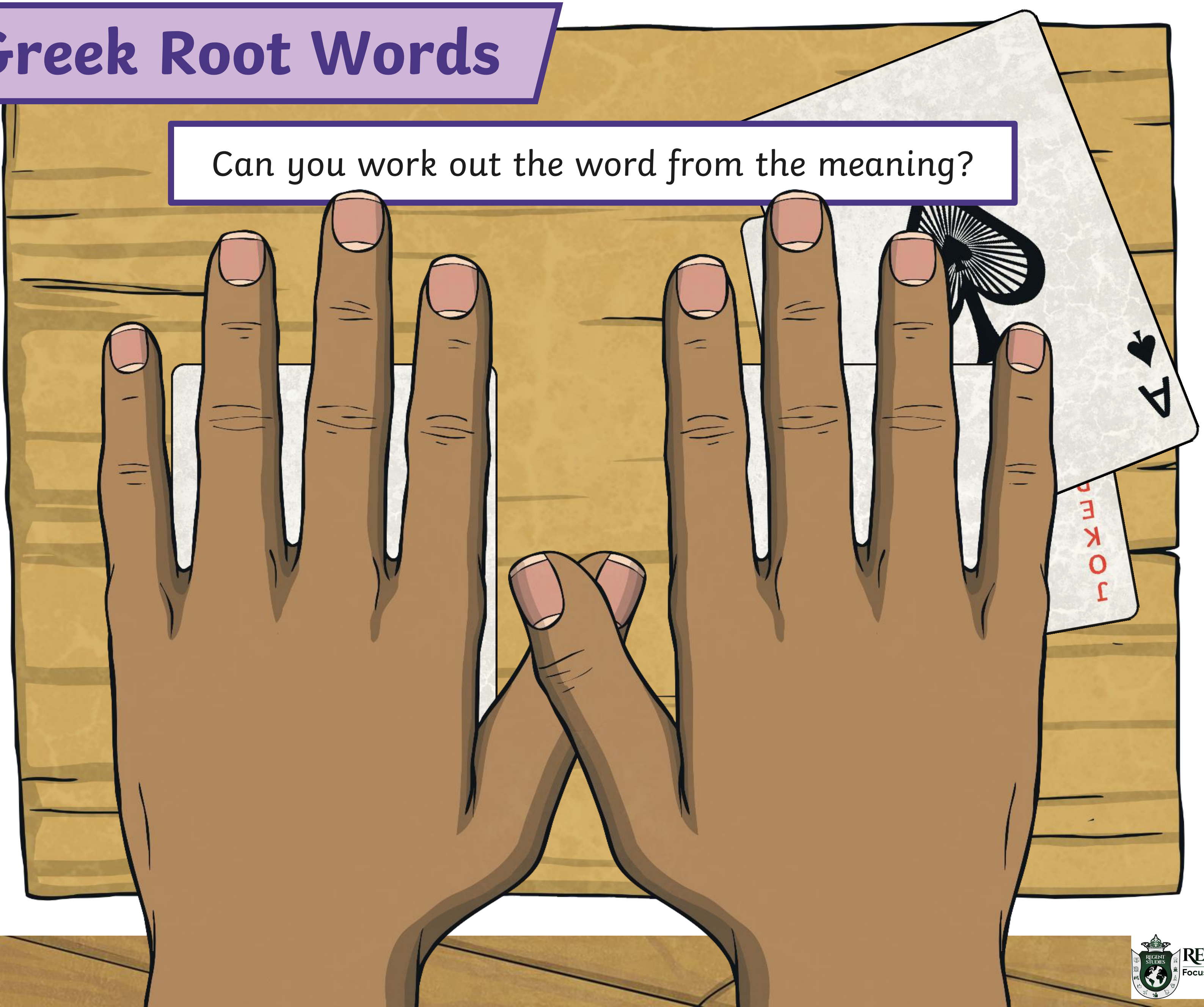
Greek Root Words

Can you work out the word from the meaning?



Greek Root Words

Can you work out the word from the meaning?



Greek Root Words

What is the root word in these words?

bio

biology

biography

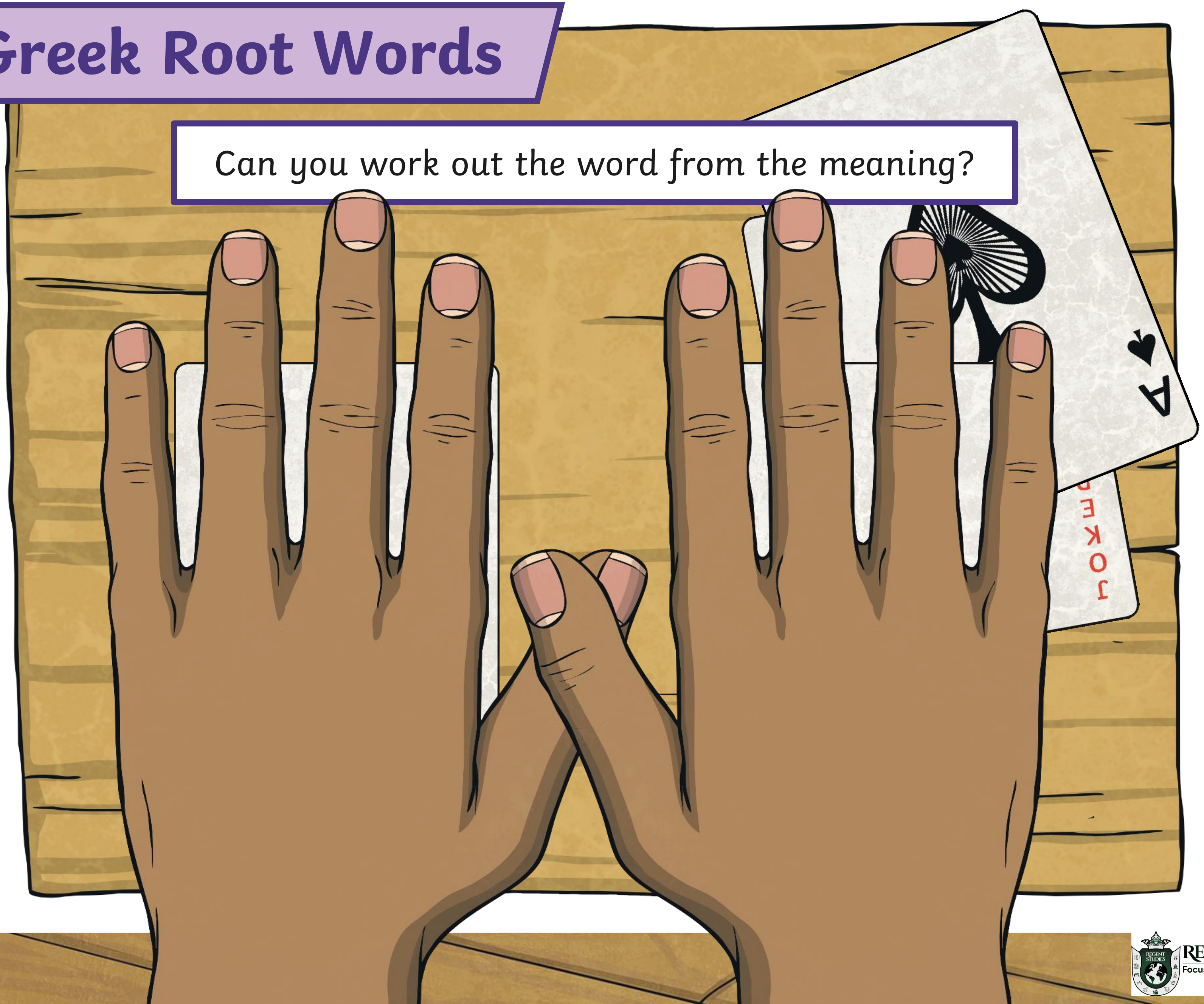
symbiosis

What does **bio** mean?

life

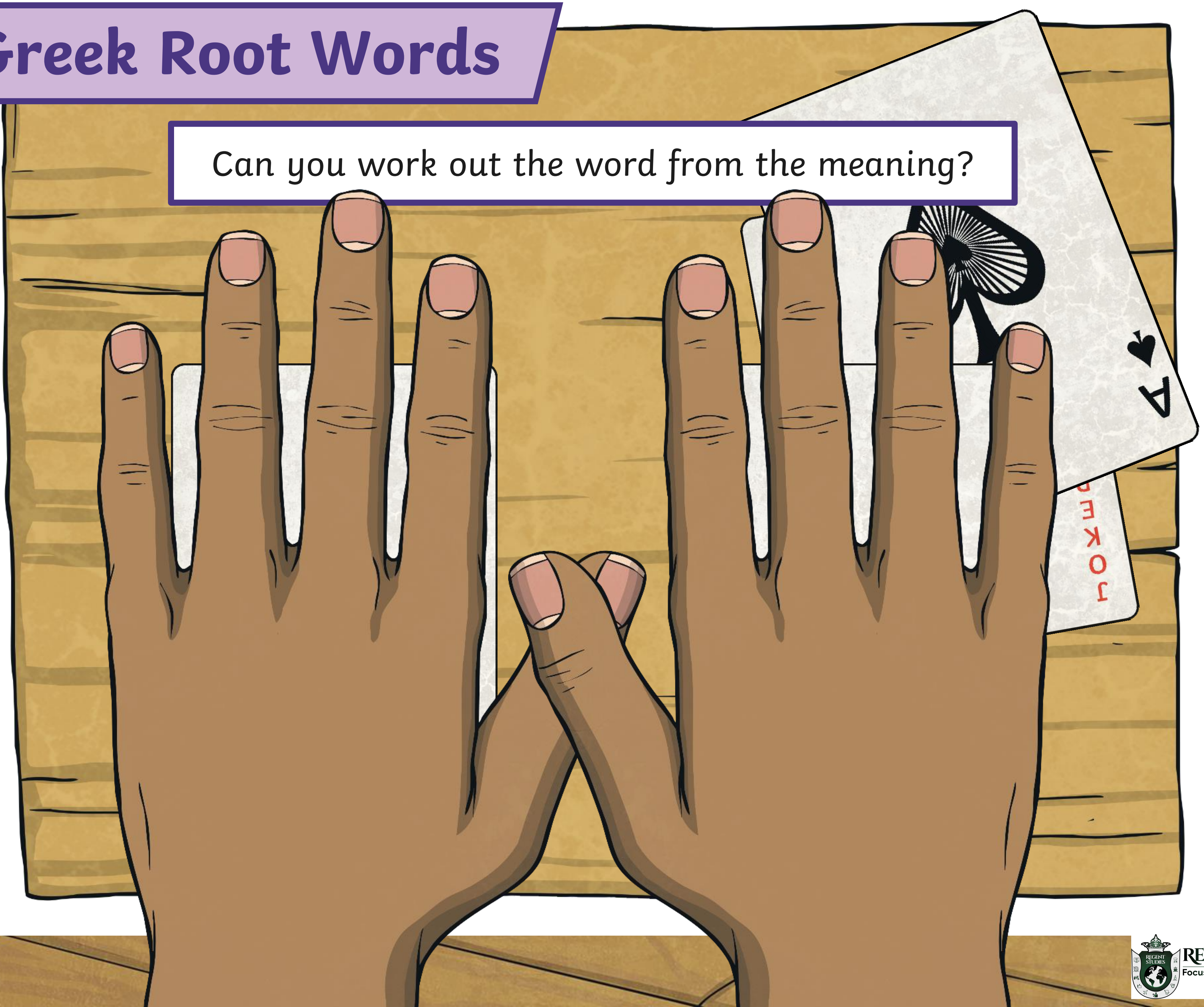
Greek Root Words

Can you work out the word from the meaning?



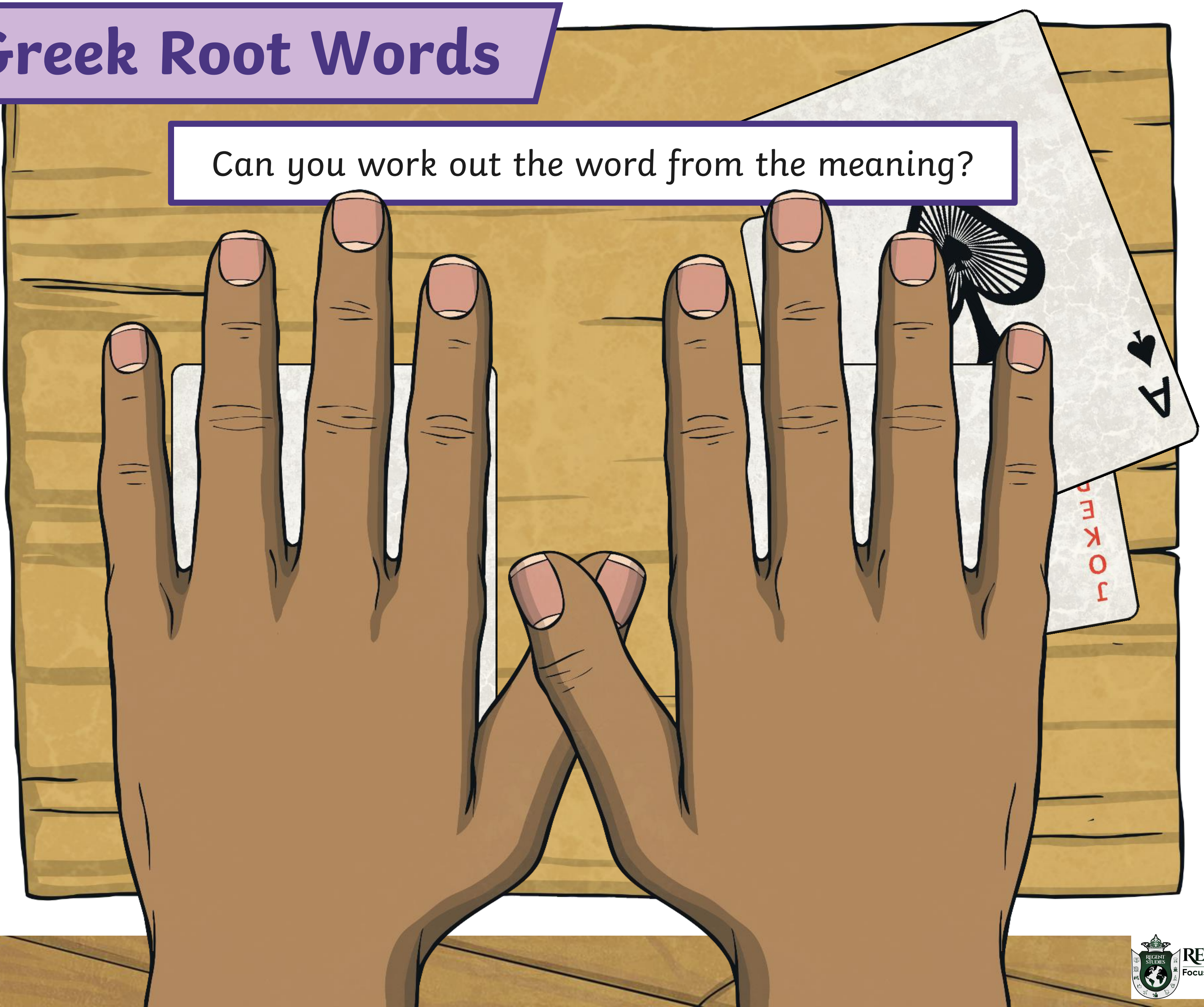
Greek Root Words

Can you work out the word from the meaning?



Greek Root Words

Can you work out the word from the meaning?



Greek Root Words

What is the root word in these words?

path

empathy

sympathy

pathetic

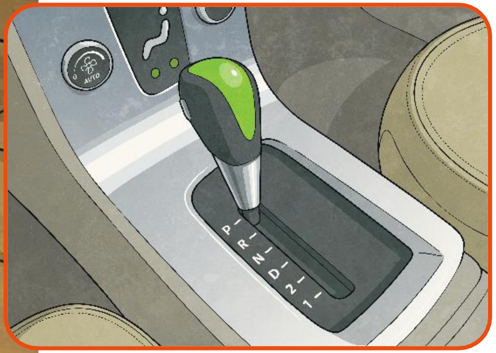
What does **path** mean?

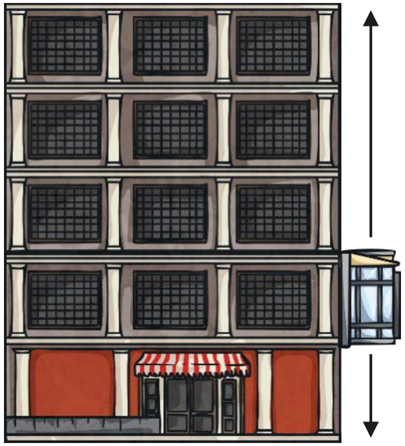
feel

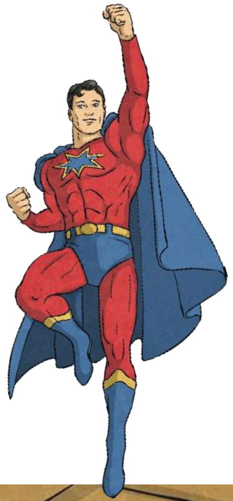
Latin Root Words

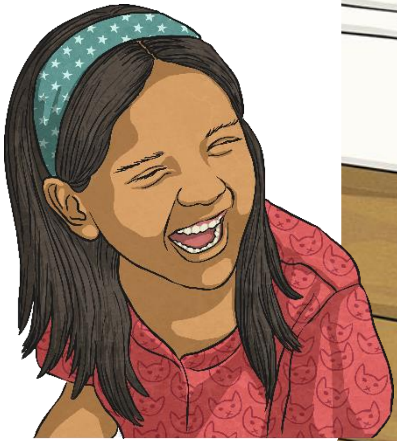
The word **lev** comes from the Latin language. It means to **lift**.

Can you think of any words that we use today that contain the root word **lev**?









Latin Root Words

lev

Did you come up with any of these?

levitate
al**lev**iate
lever
levity
e**lev**ator

Latin Root Words

brev

meaning short

How many words containing **brev** can you think of?

ab**brev**iate
brevity
brief
breviary
brevicollis

Latin Root Words

audi

meaning to hear

How many words containing **audi** can you think of?

audible
audition
audience
audio
audit

Latin Root Words

Look at these words, can you work out the Latin root word they are all based on?

beneficial

benefit

benefactor

benevolent

bene

What do you think **bene** means in English?

good

Latin Root Words

What about these ones?

quit

unrequited

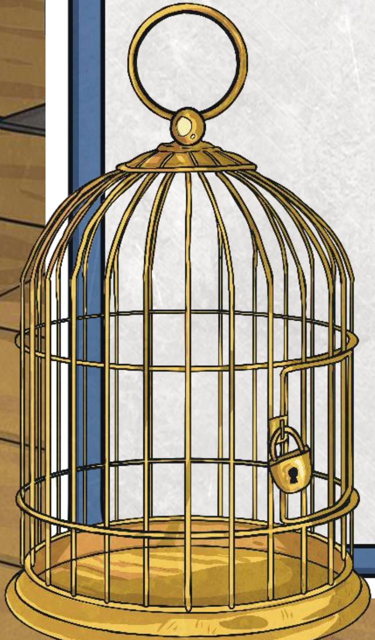
acquittal

acquit

quit

What do you think **quit** means in English?

To release



Latin Root Words

What about these ones?

omnivore

omnibus

omnipotent

omnify

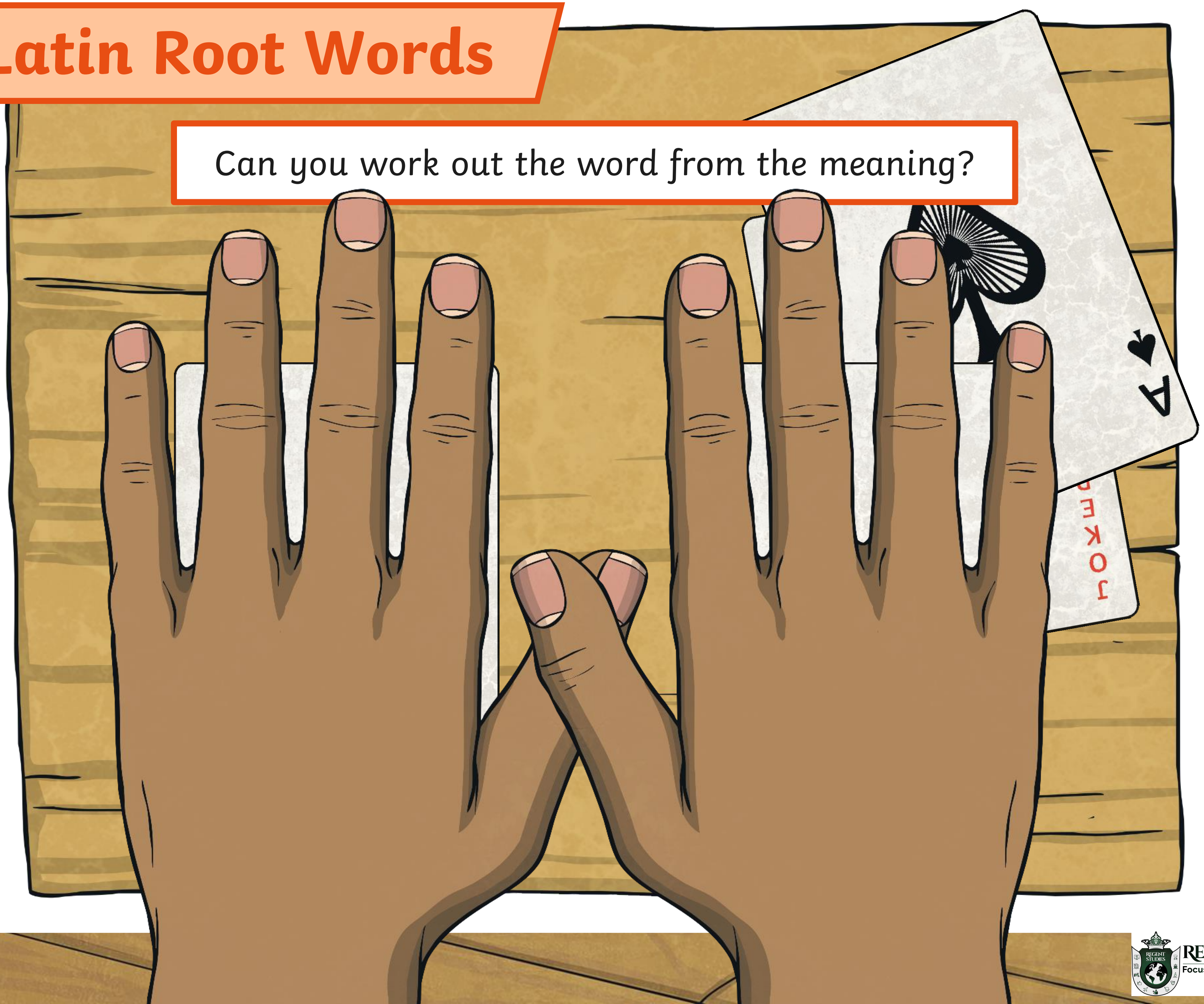
omni

What do you think **omni** means in English?

all

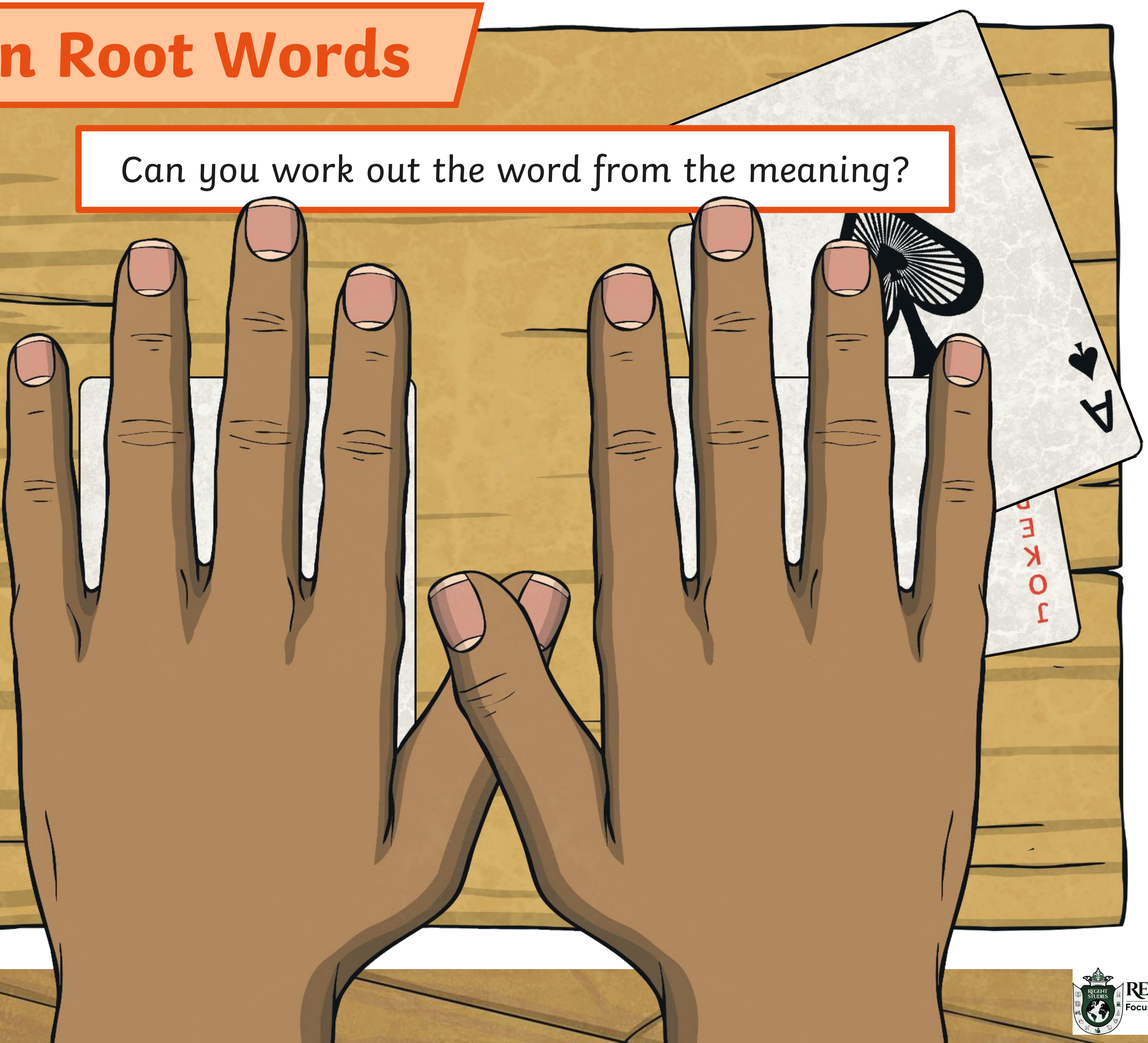
Latin Root Words

Can you work out the word from the meaning?



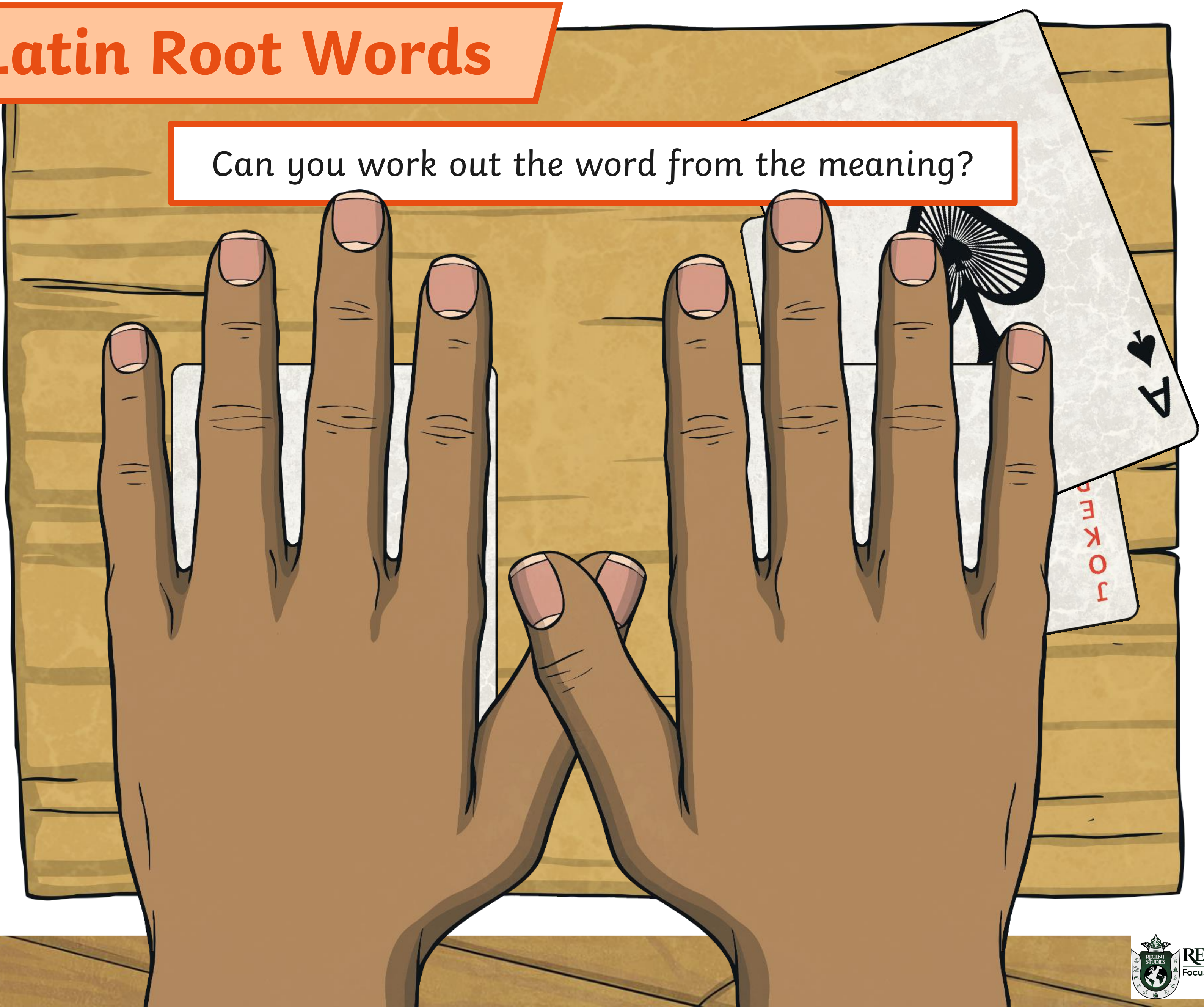
Latin Root Words

Can you work out the word from the meaning?



Latin Root Words

Can you work out the word from the meaning?



Latin Root Words

What is the root word in these words?

terr

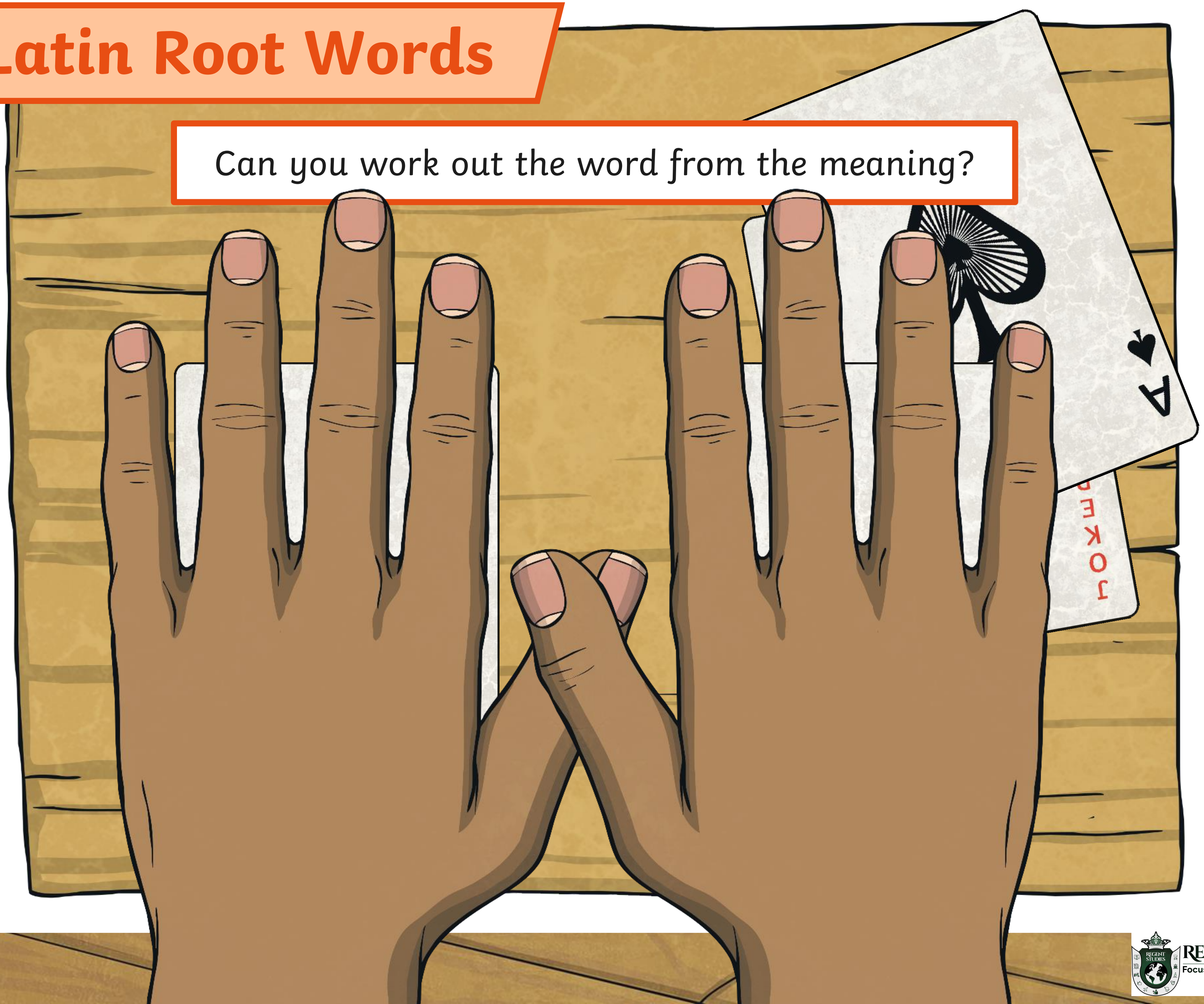
- terrain
- subterranean
- terrarium

What does **terr** mean?

earth/land

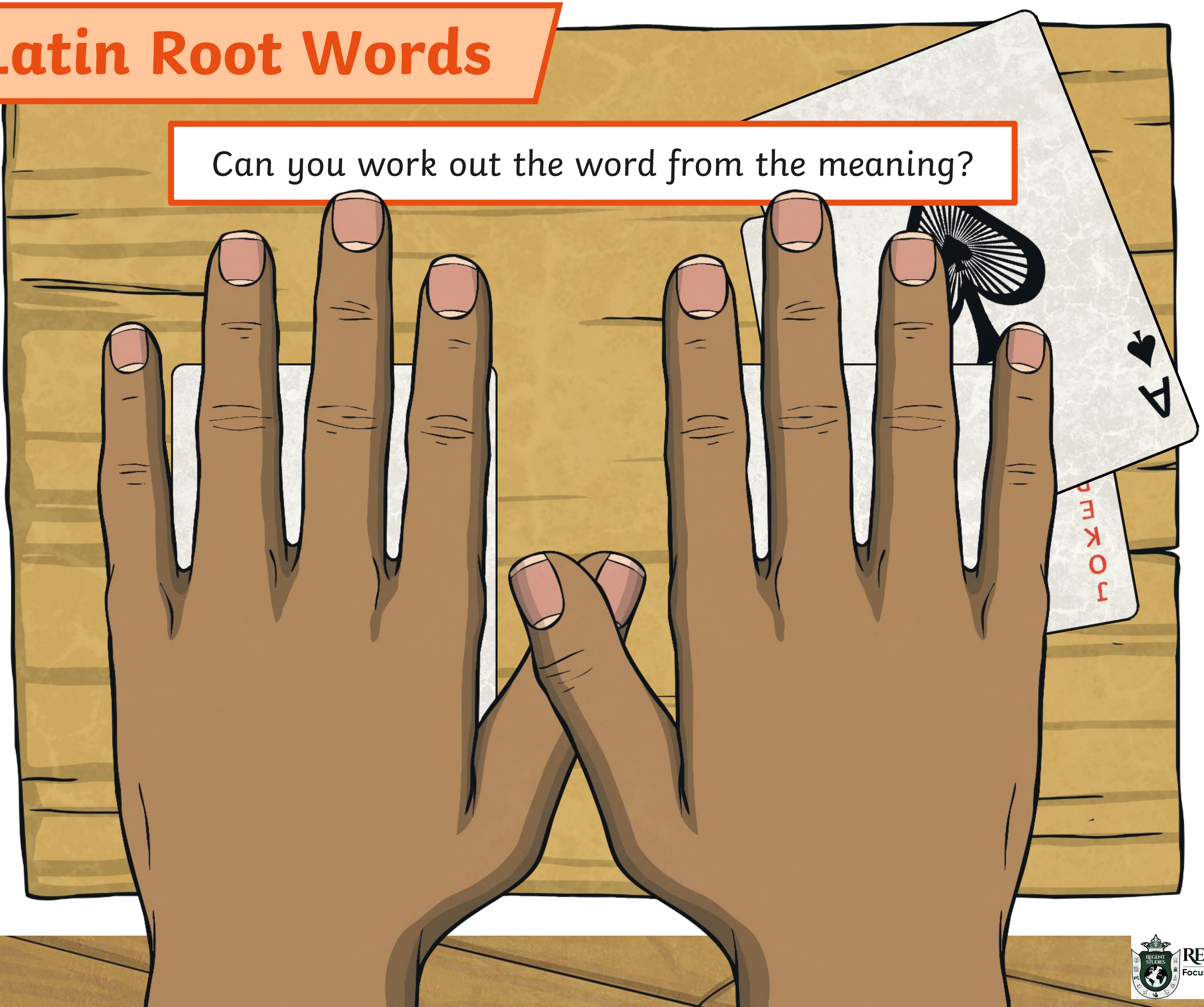
Latin Root Words

Can you work out the word from the meaning?



Latin Root Words

Can you work out the word from the meaning?



Latin Root Words

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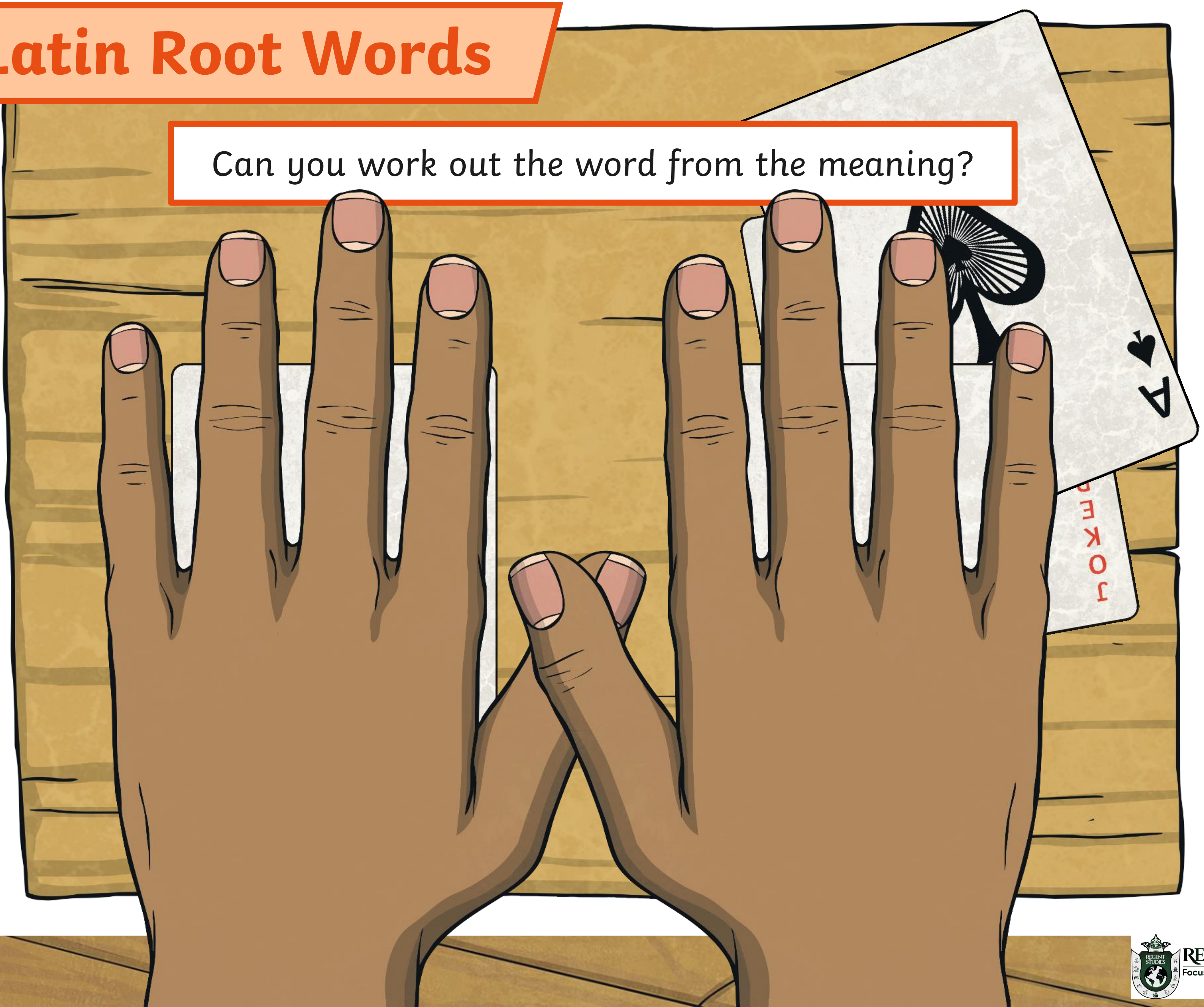


Latin Root Words

What is the root word in these words?

manu

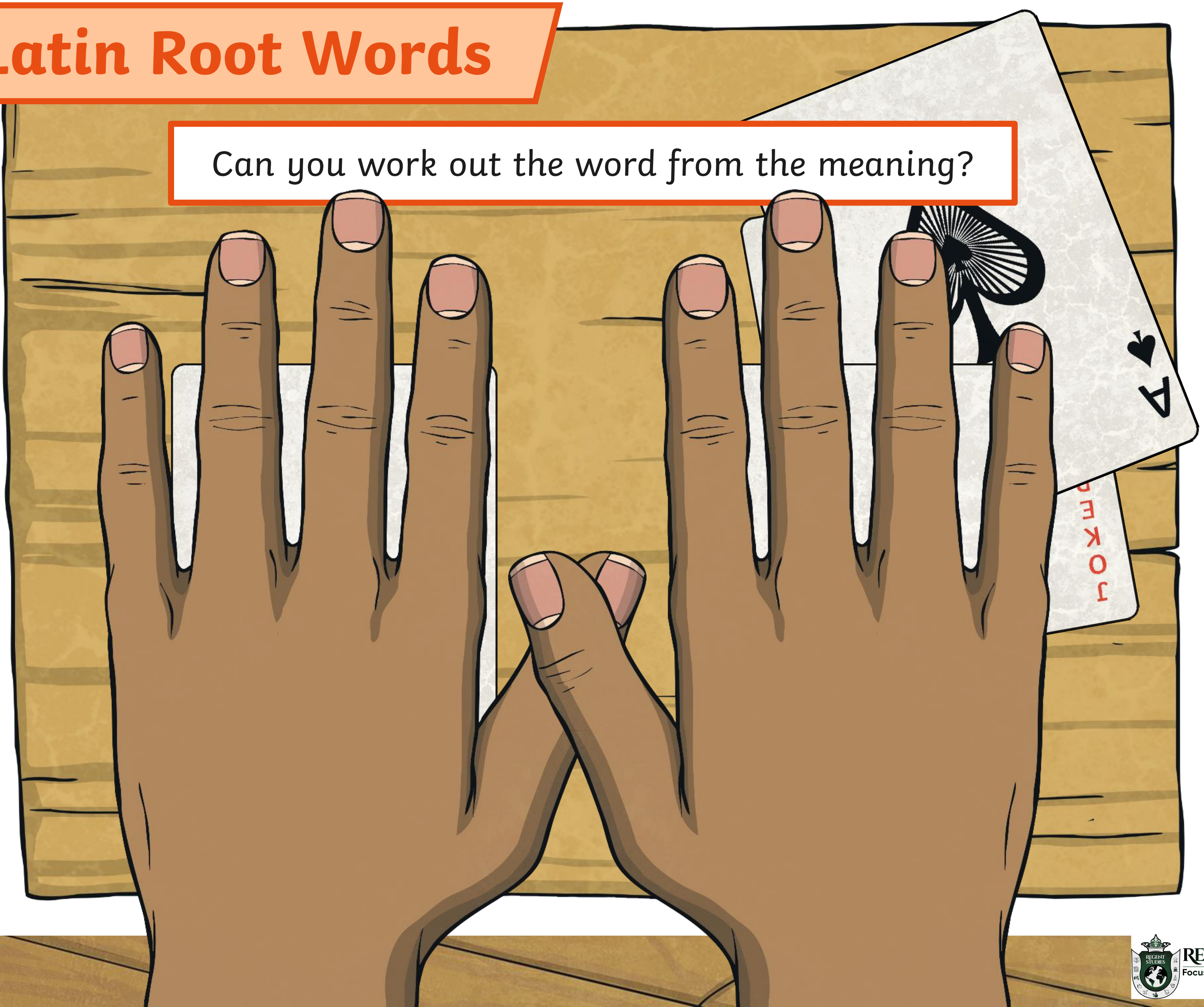
- manual
- manufacture
- manuscript

What does **manu** mean?

hand

Latin Root Words

Can you work out the word from the meaning?



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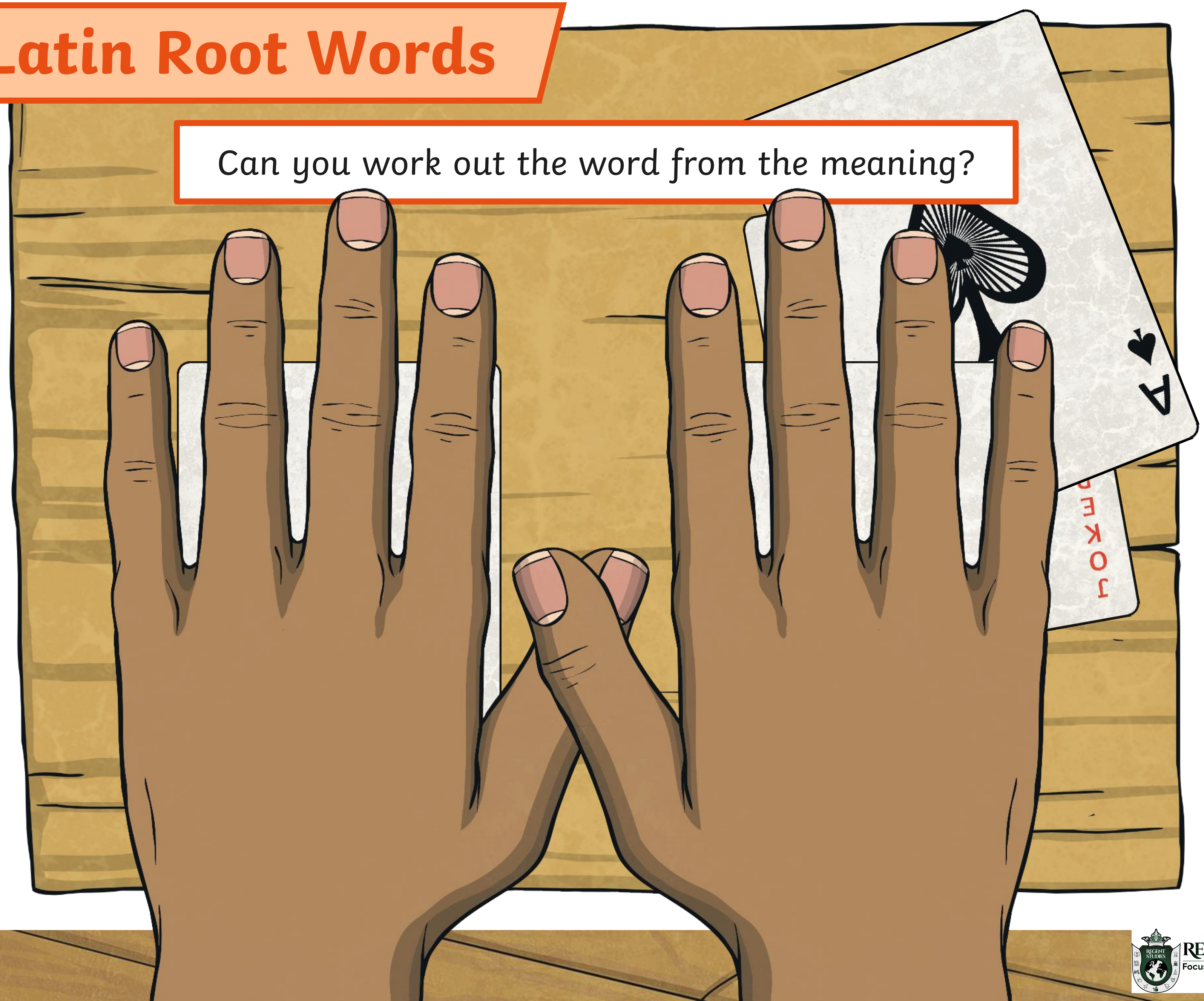

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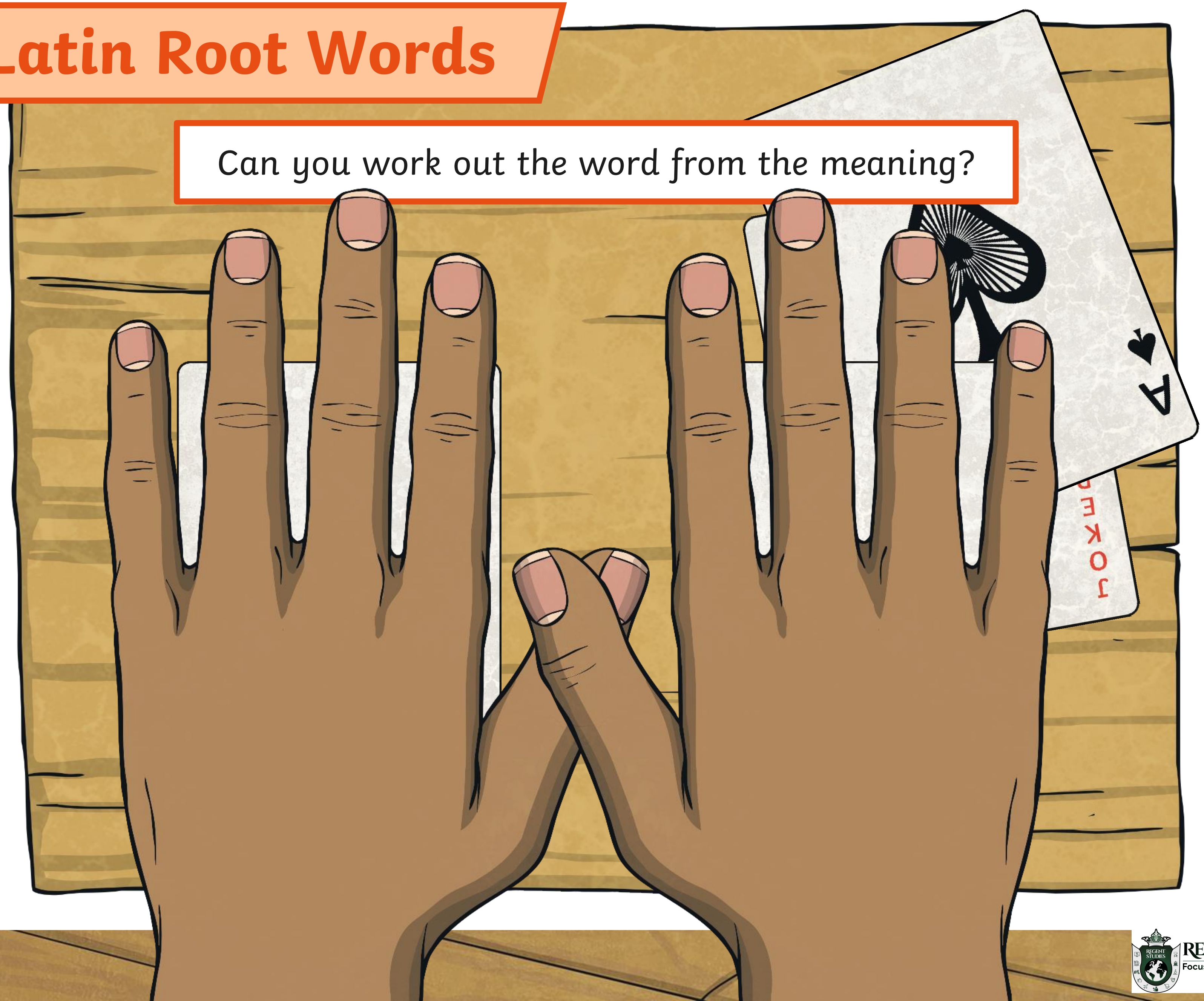

Latin Root Words

What is the root word in these words?

circ

- circumference
- circle
- circulation

What does **circ** mean?

round