Adding the prefix in-
(meaning 'not' or 'into')

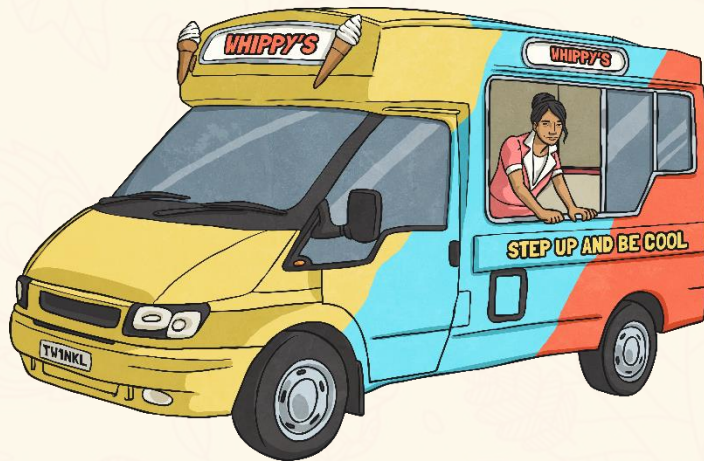This week, we are going to look at words that contain a particular prefix?

What is a prefix?

A prefix is a string of letters that are added to the beginning of a root word, which changes its meaning.
Each prefix has a meaning.

This week we will look at root words with the prefix 'in-' added to them.
Keep thinking about the meaning of the prefix 'in-' as we go through the lesson.

Work with a partner to play this 'in-' prefix quick quiz.
Write your answers on your whiteboards.
Who can answer all the questions correctly?

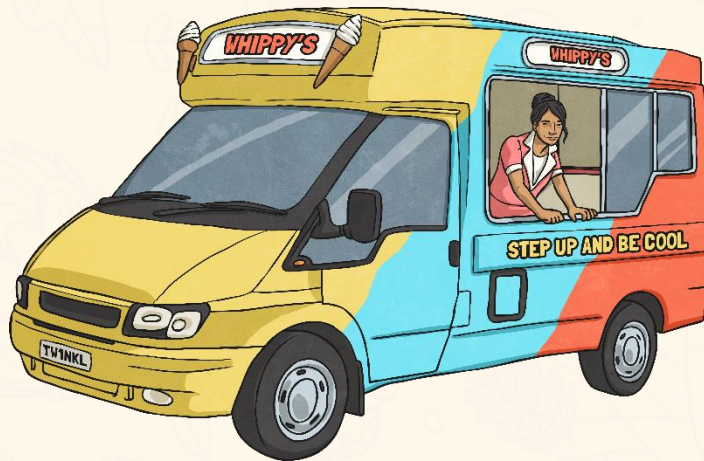Can you think of the 'in-' prefix word missing from this sentence?

I just couldn't make up my mind what I wanted from the ice cream van as I was feeling very _____.

inaccurate   indecisive   inactive

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Answer

Can you think of the 'in-' prefix word missing from this sentence?

I just couldn't make up my mind what I wanted from the ice cream van as I was feeling very indecisive.

Can you think of the 'in-' prefix word missing from this sentence?

Because of her _____ measurements, Polly's cake didn't rise in the oven.

inaccurate   infinite   inactive

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Answer

Can you think of the 'in-' prefix word missing from this sentence?

Because of her inaccurate measurements, Polly's cake didn't rise in the oven.

Work with a partner to play this 'in-' prefix quick quiz. Write your answers on your whiteboards. Who can all the questions correct?

Can you think of the 'in-' prefix word missing from this sentence?

As Jack had an _____ to keep a secret, everyone knew about the surprise party.

inedible   indecisive   inability

Can you think of the 'in-' prefix word missing from this sentence?

As Jack had an inability to keep a secret, everyone knew about the surprise party.

Can you think of any more words with an in- prefix?

decisive → indecisive
accurate → inaccurate
ability → inability
correct → incorrect
complete → incomplete
active → inactive
secure → insecure
definite → indefinite
edible → inedible
finite → infinite

So, what is the meaning of the prefix 'in-'?

'in-' usually means not and creates an opposite word to the root word (antonym).