A prefix is a word part added to the beginning of a word to change a word and its meaning.

**after-** means later or after

**under-** means below or less

To read and understand words with prefixes, think about the meaning of the words.

Under means “below” or “less”, so **underground** means below the ground.

After means later or after, so **afterthought** means something you think about later.

Twice each year, the amazing Red Knot bird migrates over 9,000 miles! For these traveling birds, food is an afterthought. They fly long distances before stopping. When Red Knots finally stop and eat, they are thin and underweight. While resting, they don’t undereat! They stuff themselves with horseshoe crab eggs.

**Parts of Speech**

Write the words that you underlined above on the lines provided. Use what you know about the prefixes after- and under- to write a definition for each word.

1. ___________________________________________________________
2. ___________________________________________________________
3. ___________________________________________________________