Read & Find Root Words #3

Read the story, and underline any words that contain the root words CRED or MAL. Then, list all the underlined words in the chart below.

"Go long!" Jada shouted as she threw the football to Connor. Connor leaped backwards and lost his balance, falling on top of the football and into a row of bushes.

"Oh man," Connor groaned <u>dismally</u> as he brushed the dirt off his jeans, "I thought I had that one." He suddenly jumped as he heard a <u>malevolent</u> hissing noise coming from under the bush. "Whoa! Is that a snake?"

"Nah, it's probably just the ball losing air from you landing on it," Jada joked. "Besides, it's too cold out for snakes," she added, <u>discrediting</u> the idea instantly. She headed over to help her friend up, but as she walked closer, the hissing became louder and more fierce.

Jada stooped down as Connor held back the branches. There, under the bush, was a small orange cat, and three tiny kittens! The mother cat hissed at them and fluffed up her fur, but her eyes were filled with fear, not <u>malice</u>. "She's definitely someone's pet," said Connor, pointing to her collar. Jada nodded in agreement. The cat certainly didn't look <u>malnourished</u> either. She looked like someone had taken good care of her.

Jada went into the house and returned with a bowl of cat food and some water. The cat watched the two kids warily for a moment. Then, deciding their good intentions were <u>credible</u>, she came out of the bush and started nibbling the food in the dish.

"Ah! There you are, Angel! Have you been here all day?" their neighbor, Mr. Abrams, asked <u>incredulously</u>. "I've been looking for you everywhere!"

"Hi, Mr. Abrams," Jada waved him over. "Angel's right here, and she has an <u>incredible</u> surprise for you!"

CRED	MAL
discrediting	dismally
credible	malevolent
incredulously	malice
incredible	malnourished
Possible Bonus Words:	Possible Bonus Words:
credit, credential, credence	malignant, malady, malfunction, malpractice
What does the root word CRED mean?	What does the root word MAL mean?
believe	bad

★ Bonus: Think of other words that contain the roots CRED and MAL. Add them to the chart.