## ITALIAN **TERMS OF** ENDEARMENT

## using suffixes

- In Italian we say pretty things just by adding a suffix. These altered words are called "vezzeggiativi".

  - The most common suffixes to build a vezzeggiativo are usually the ones used for diminutives: -ino, -etto, -ello + -uccio, -occhio, -acchiotto, -oso, and combinations of them.
- In this case, more than for other alterations, it is our personal feelings that guide the word choice. There is usually a certain degree of affection involved - which sometimes leads to the creation of completely new words!

Caldo - calduccio (a nice warm temperature) Naso - nasetto (a pretty small nose) Lupo - lupacchiotto (a sweet wolf puppy) Morbido - morbidoso (so soft and cute)

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