

Name _____

Possessive Nouns

Possessive nouns show who or what owns something.

If the noun is singular...

add an apostrophe and then an s.

examples: boy → boy's
 class → class's

If the noun is plural...

***does it end in s? If yes, then add an apostrophe.**

examples: boys → boys'
 dogs → dogs'

***does it end in s? If no, then add an apostrophe and s.**

examples: men → men's
 children → children's

Singular Possessives

Singular Noun Definition: When a noun means one only, it is said to be singular.
Examples: boy, girl, book, church, box

Possessive Case Definition: When a noun shows ownership or possession
To show ownership or possession of a singular noun, add an apostrophe (') and the letter s ('s)

Examples:

boy = boy's girl = girl's
bird = bird's mouse = mouse's

Exercise

Quickly list some of the nouns (things) YOU own. Now say your name before each of the things you own.

Examples:

Rachel's hairbrush Kathleen's pencil
Edward's ruler Geoffrey's truck

The comma that hangs up in the air is called an apostrophe. This shows that the noun owns something.

Exercise

Fill in the blanks below with YOUR name.

_____ 's shoes _____ 's coat
_____ 's book _____ 's pillow
_____ 's toy _____ 's socks

Did you notice the ***apostrophe s ('s)***?

Possessive Noun Phrases

Name: _____ Date: _____

Rewrite each of the phrases to use a possessive noun.

(1) the cord of the mouse

the mouse's cord

(2) the speed of the typist

(3) the taste of the salsa

(4) the sound of the ocean

(5) the temperature at the mountain
peak

(6) the clarity of the speakers

(7) the toy of the children

(8) the velocity of the fighter plane

(9) the noise from the engines

(10) the pencil that belongs to Robert

(11) the color of the plastic

(12) the desk of my friend

(13) the temperature of the room

(14) the shaft of the screwdriver

(15) the feel of the fabric

(16) the bicycle of the friend

(17) the health of the puppy

(18) the paintings found in the museum

(19) the Great Wall of China

Name: _____

Possessive Nouns

Possessive nouns show who or what owns something. Singular nouns are made possessive by adding an apostrophe and then an s.

example: The boy's kite flew high in the sky.

Plural possessives are formed by adding an apostrophe after the s.

example: The girls' kite flew high in the sky.

When a plural noun does not end with an s, an apostrophe and then an s are added.

example: The men's truck was dirty.

Directions: Rewrite the underlined nouns in the sentences below to make them possessive.

1. The baby toy fell on the floor. _____
2. Suzy doll had red hair. _____
3. Those boys shoes are in the locker. _____
4. The women computer was broken. _____
5. The dog ball went into the street. _____
6. Ben mom brought his snack to school. _____
7. The children toys were left out in the rain. _____
8. The girl milk spilled on the floor. _____
9. Tony sister fell off the swing. _____
10. The pan handle was very hot. _____

Possessive Nouns

Tell whether each underlined possessive noun is singular or plural.

examples: The penguins' home is in Antarctica. *plural*

The tree's leaves are yellow. *singular*

1. That book's pages are wrinkled. _____
2. The girls' ball went over the fence. _____
3. My jacket's button needs to be fixed. _____
4. The horses' riders were dressed in red. _____
5. We can't find our cat's toy. _____
6. The author's books were very popular. _____
7. The artists' paintings quickly sold out. _____
8. Can you see the lion's paws? _____
9. The teachers' copy machine never works. _____
10. Can you come to my brother's house? _____

Plural Possessives

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Plural Noun Definition: When a noun means more than one, it is said to be plural.

Examples: boys, girls, books, churches

Possessive Case Definition: When a noun shows ownership or possession

Rule #1

When the plural ends in **s**, only the apostrophe is added.

Examples: boys = boys**s'** coat Jesus**s'** disciples
Mr. Furness = Mr. Furness**s'** car
Odysseus = Odysseus**s'** travels
princess = princess**s'** tiara

Rule #2

When the plural does not end in **s**, only the **apostrophe** and the **s** is added.

Examples: oxen = oxen**'s**

Exercise

Write the possessive of each of the following nouns and tell what each possesses.

boys _____	ladies _____	kings _____
girls _____	beauties _____	churches _____
mice _____	men _____	geese _____
oxen _____	women _____	cousins _____
clocks _____	teachers _____	heroes _____
ducks _____	cows _____	horses _____
wolves _____	bears _____	queens _____
foxes _____	flies _____	turkeys _____
workmen _____	scholars _____	cars _____

Name: _____

Possessive Nouns

Possessive nouns are used to show that something belongs to a person, place, thing, or idea.

To make a singular noun possessive, add an apostrophe and an "s" to the end. Do this even if the noun already ends with an "s".




The classroom belongs to Mr. Gonzales. ⇨ Mr. Gonzales's classroom

The book belongs to Jeff. ⇨ Jeff's book

To make a plural noun that ends in "s" possessive, add an apostrophe to the end.

The restroom belongs to the girls ⇨ The girls' restroom

The flavor belongs to the beans ⇨ The beans' flavor 

To make an irregular plural noun that does not end in "s" possessive, add an apostrophe and an "s" to the end.



The toys belong to the children ⇨ The children's toys

The food belongs to the geese ⇨ The geese's food

★Remember: you do not need to use an apostrophe unless something belongs to a person, place, thing, or idea.

Write the correct possessive noun to show each belonging:

Example: The ball belongs to the boys the boys' ball

1. The car belongs to the man _____

2. The dinner belongs to the family _____

3. The books belong to the students _____

4. The candy belongs to Jessica _____

5. The mess belongs to the dogs _____

6. The painting belongs to the woman _____

7. The homework belongs to Mike _____

8. The mouse hole belongs to the mice _____

9. The blanket belongs to the child _____

10. The house belongs to Mrs. Johnson _____

Possessive Nouns

Fill in the two blank lines with the correct possessive noun and a common noun.

examples: There is one tiger. Its body has stripes.
The tiger's body has stripes.

There are two woodchucks. Their teeth are long.
The woodchucks' teeth are long.

1. There is one shark. Its teeth are sharp.
The _____ are sharp.
2. There are two spiders. Their webs catch insects.
The _____ catch insects.
3. There are six lizards. Their tails have stripes.
The _____ have stripes.
4. There is one pig. Its tail is curly.
The _____ is curly.
5. There are two bears. Their fur keeps them warm.
The _____ keeps them warm.
6. There is one giraffe. Its baby is called a calf.
The _____ is called a calf.

Name: _____

Combining Sentences Using Plural Possessive Nouns

Read each pair of sentences, then combine them to write one sentence using a plural possessive noun.

Example: The teacher returned the essays. The essays belonged to the students.

The teacher returned the students' essays.

1. The instructor packed away the costumes. The costumes belonged to the dancers.

2. The tutors checked the homework. The homework belonged to the children.

3. We saw the tiny eggs in the nest. The nest belonged to the birds.

4. The complaints angered the teachers. The complaints were made by the parents.

5. I put away the art supplies. The art supplies belonged to the students.

6. The uniforms are red, white, and blue. The uniforms belong to the cheerleaders.

7. The teacher returned the books to the library. The books belonged to the children.

8. Barack Obama was the choice for President. The choice was made by the people.

Noun	Plural	Singular Possessive	Plural Possessive
1. friend			
2. skateboard			
3. box			
4. wolf			
5. video			
6. student			
7. hero			
8. puppy			
9. potato			
10. tooth			
11. toy			
12. child			
13. computer			
14. deer			
15. foot			
16. yo-yo			
17. knife			
18. sheep			
19. wish			
20. mouse			
21. thief			
22. city			
23. valley			
24. woman			
25. ox			