

What is a noun?

A **noun** names a person, place, or thing.

girl

house

bike

Nouns can be **singular** or **plural**.

singular: neighbor house

plural: neighbors houses

Nouns can be **common** or **proper**.

common: boy street

proper: Gus Oak Street

A **possessive noun** shows ownership.

Julie's flute

the boys' tubas

Standard 2RW1.5 Identify and correctly use regular plurals (e.g., -s, -es, -ies) and irregular plurals (e.g., fly/flies, wife/wives).

Plural means "more than one." A noun can be **singular** (one) or plural (more than one). Here are some rules you can follow to make the plural of a noun.

- Add s to form the plural of most nouns.

beetle	crayon	duck	shovel
beetles	crayons	ducks	shovels

- Add -es to form the plural of nouns that end in s or ss, x, ch, or sh.

address	fox	peach	dish
addresses	foxes	peaches	dishes

- Add -ies to form the plural of nouns that end in a consonant plus y. Remember to change the y to -i and add es.

country	bunny	story	library
countries	bunnies	stories	libraries

- Add s to form the plural of nouns that end in a vowel plus y.

boy	donkey	holiday	play
boys	donkeys	holidays	plays

- Some words have **irregular** nouns. They do not follow the rules above.

goose	mouse	child	tooth
geese	mice	children	teeth

Most nouns	add s	book, books; cup, cups; sprout, sprouts
Most nouns that end in <i>ch</i> , <i>sh</i> , <i>s</i> , <i>x</i> , or <i>z</i>	add <i>es</i>	box, boxes; bus, buses; prize, prizes; dish, dishes; church, churches
Most nouns that end in a vowel and <i>y</i>	add s	boy, boys; day, days; key, keys
Most nouns that end in a consonant and <i>y</i>	<i>y</i> becomes <i>ies</i>	baby, babies; country, countries; spy, spies
Most nouns that end in <i>f</i> or <i>fe</i>	<i>f</i> or <i>fe</i> becomes <i>ves</i>	elf, elves; loaf, loaves; thief, thieves; leaf, leaves; wife, wives
Most nouns that end in <i>o</i>	add s	kangaroo, kangaroos; piano, pianos; video, videos
Certain nouns that end in a consonant and <i>o</i>	add <i>es</i>	hero, heroes; potato, potatoes; volcano, volcanoes

Exceptions

Certain English nouns change a vowel sound when they become plural. These include *goose, geese; man, men; mouse, mice; tooth, teeth; foot, feet; woman, women;*

Some nouns don't change at all when they become plural. These include *deer, fish, sheep, species, cattle,*

A few nouns have plural forms that are left from Old English. These include *child, children* and *ox, oxen.*

Singular nouns use this and that.

Plural nouns use these and those.