



Using apostrophes to show possession is quite easy, until it comes to words that end in s; then it is more tricky. Follow our rules below.

If the word is plural and ends in s, we add an apostrophe after the last s.

The apostrophe helps us understand the meaning of the sentence:

The teacher heard the **girl's** laughter. (There was just one girl)

The teacher heard the **girls'** laughter. (There was more than one girl)

Complete the table below, putting the apostrophes in the correct place:

Singular	Possessive
the boy	the boys comic
the flower	the flowers petal
the shed	the sheds window

Plural	Possessive
the boys	the boys comics
the flowers	the flowers petals
the sheds	the sheds windows

Rewrite each of these phrases using the using the singular ('s) and using the plural (s')

1a. the owls screech (one owl)

1b. the owls screeches (several owls)

2a. the ships horn (one ship)

2b. the ships horns (several ships)

Write a sentences using these phrases as singular (one) and then as plural (more than one):

3. the pens nib

4. the pens nibs

5. the cars lights

6. the cars lights

3.

4.

5.

6.

Name:



It gets even trickier when a singular word ends in s. Follow our rules below.

If the word is singular and ends in s, and we pronounce the extra s when saying it out loud, we can add an apostrophe and an s.

e.g. Thomas – Thomas's book

If the word is plural and ends in s, we add an apostrophe after the last s.

e.g. the girls – the girls' parties

Singular	Possessive
the bus	the buss horn
the class	the class teacher
the iris	the iriss flower

Plural	Possessive
the buses	the buses horns
the classes	the classes teachers
the irises	the irises flowers

Rewrite each of these phrases using the using the singular ('s) and using the plural (s')

1a. the princesss diamond (one princess)

1b. the princesses diamonds (several princesses)

2a. the atlass cover (one atlas)

2b. the atlases covers (several atlases)

Write a sentences using these phrases:

3. the dresss hem

4. the dresses hems

5. the businesss profit

6. the businesses profits

3.

4.

5.

6.

Name:



It gets even trickier as the rules are not always followed. Here we look at some of the odd ways we use the apostrophe, or not!

Many places use the apostrophe in their names. Here are some:

1. Land's End

2. Regent's Park

3. King's Cross station

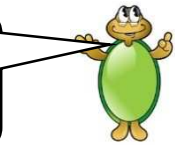
3. St Paul's Cathedral

5. Lord's Cricket Ground

Find out more about each of the above places and write a sentence about each.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Some names have dropped the apostrophe from their names.



6. Lloyds Bank

7. Pears Soap

8. St Andrews (golf)

Find out more about each of the above names and write a sentence about each.

- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Answers

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Singular	Possessive
the boy	the boy's comic
the flower	the flower's petal
the shed	the shed's window

Plural	Possessive
the boys	the boys' comics
the flowers	the flowers' petals
the sheds	the sheds' windows

1a. the owl's screech (one owl)

1b. the owls' screeching (several owls)

2a. the ship's horn (one ship)

2b. the ships' horns (several ships)

Sentences showing the meaning of:

3. the pen's nib

4. the pens' nibs

5. the car's lights

6. the cars' lights

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Singular	Possessive
the bus	the bus's horn
the class	the class's teacher
the iris	the iris's flower

Plural	Possessive
the buses	the buses' horns
the classes	the classes' teachers
the irises	the irises' flowers

1a. The princess's diamond (one princess)

1b. The princesses' diamonds (several princesses)

2a. The atlas's cover (one atlas)

2b. The atlases' covers (several atlases)

Sentences showing the meaning of:

3. the dress's hem

4. the dresses' hems

5. the business's profit

6. the businesses' profits

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5 sentences using the place names with apostrophes.

3 sentences using the names with no apostrophes.

Name: